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'Defendants can't present affirmative defense at preliminary hearing.' PAGE 2

BIG refutes ACG's comments on Tinian labor force. PAGE 3

# Security panel wants 'military edge' maintained in the Pacific

## » Says China missile threat 'increasing' with newly unveiled 'extremely inaccurate' missile

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Staffers from a congressional panel reviewing U.S.-China security relations released a report this month raising alarm on China's "increasing" capabilities to launch a yet-to-be-proven missile dubbed the "Guam killer."

Guam is home to various military installations and is one of China's "focal points" in developing its missile capability, according to a report from the U.S.-China Economic and Security Commission.

The report centers its alarm on the "surprise introduction" of China's

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**PIT STOP**

The *Alingano Maisu*, right, and two other Micronesian-style, single-hull sailing and voyaging canoes are docked at the beach near the Chamolinian Utt in Garapan. The crew of all three sailing canoes will be making the last leg of their journey when they leave for Guam today to attend the 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts.

JON PEREZ

See story on Page 4

# As El Niño weakens, NWS issues La Niña Watch

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Recent rain showers provided relief to some parts of the CNMI but the National Weather Service continues to forecast below normal yearly rainfall amounts on the islands as the current El Niño event passes its peak and is slowly weakening, and could transition to La Niña later this year.

In its latest drought information statement, NWS said computer models indicate that below normal rainfall will continue in the next couple of months in the CNMI.

"Water supplies need to be monitored very closely and water conservation is highly encouraged. Drying and yellowing of food crops and vegetation will become worse and grass fires will increase. Livestock on Tinian may become stressed as food sources dry up," NWS said.

"Water wells on Saipan could see an increase in salinity as the drought progresses," it added.

In a board meeting last week, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. reported that some of their water wells on Saipan have been experiencing

See EL NIÑO on Page 4

# Ex-Aging Office director slapped with 1-year jail term

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman yesterday slapped a one-year prison term against former Office of Aging director Rose DLG. Mondala who pleaded guilty to two charges that stemmed from using the Aging Office's funds and materials for the needs of the Covenant Party during the 2009 elections and to build a fence at her house in Kagman.

"Such conduct cannot and will not be tolerated and the proverbial message must be sent that government officials who betray the public trust by violating the laws of the CNMI

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## INSIDE

**LOCAL**

Geralyn Dela Cruz personally saw the hardship that Angel Ray T. Guerrero endured in his battle against cancer and that's why she felt that the community must know his story.

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**BUSINESS**

More than 4 million U.S. workers will become newly eligible for overtime pay under rules to be issued Wednesday by the Obama administration.

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**ASIA**

Presumptive Philippine president-elect Rodrigo Duterte's anti-crime reputation may now haunt him as he comes under a national and international spotlight.

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# Local

## IN CASE VS EX-DPS CHIEF, EX-COP

# 'Defendants can't present affirmative defense at preliminary hearing'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday ruled that former Department of Public Safety commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero and former police officer Jesse S. Concepcion are not allowed to present affirmative defense of mistake of age at the preliminary hearing stage.

In an 11-page order, Camacho said the affirmative defense of mistake of age must be proven with admissible evidence, by a preponderance of the evidence, to the jury.

Concepcion and Deleon Guerrero, through their counsel, have asserted an affirmative defense that they believed then that the girl they allegedly sexually assaulted was not a minor.

Camacho

Camacho said he will issue a separate order on whether there is probable cause to charge for any of the offenses against Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion.

Camacho said at a preliminary hearing, the Commonwealth must show probable cause for the charged offenses.

"Since the low standard of proof of probable cause is required at the preliminary hearing, the rules of evidence do not apply," the judge said.

Camacho said the affirm defense of mistake of age must be proven by a preponderance of the evidence, which is a higher standard of proof than probable cause.

The judge noted that although some jurisdictions allow affirmative defenses to be raised at a preliminary hearing, their preliminary hearings follow different procedures and standards than the CNMI.

Camacho started the preliminary hearing last April 22 and continued it last May 9 after defense lawyers Richard W. Pierce and Matthew J. Holley raised the affirmative defense issue.

Camacho then ordered the parties to submit briefs on the affirmative defense issue.

After hearing the parties' arguments about the probable cause and affirmative defense issues, the judge placed them under advisement.

In an order issued yesterday, Camacho said since the defendants bear the burden of proving mistake of age by a preponderance of the evidence, allowing such a defense to be argued or proven in a preliminary hearing (which typically applies the lower standard of probable cause), where the rules of evidence do not apply, is problematic.

In effect, Camacho said, inadmissible evidence and testimony would be used to establish whether the defendants reasonably believed that the victim was 16 years old or older, despite the fact that the statute requires that affirmative defenses be proven by a preponderance of the evidence.

The judge further noted that that Commonwealth Criminal Code explicitly states that the affirmative defense must be presented to the "trier of fact."

The Office of the Attorney General charged Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion each with one count of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, two counts of misconduct in public office, and two counts of conspiracy to commit sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

In the government's brief, assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley said the court should not allow Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion to sidestep a jury trial by permitting them present an affirmative defense at the preliminary hearing stage.

Baisley said Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion, both seasoned police officers, are presenting the affirmative defense that they believed the 15-year-old girl was 24, 19, or 18, depending on which of their statements one chooses to believe.

At a preliminary hearing last April 22, FBI special agent Park testified that Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion confessed during his interview that they had sex with a girl at a secluded San Antonio beach site in June 2013.

Park said Deleon Guerrero, 44, and Concepcion, 45, were surprised when he told them that the girl was a minor and was then only 15 years old.

Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion are both under house arrest after posting $25,000 and $10,000 cash bail plus property, respectively.

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## DPL collects $130K in past rental dues

The Department of Public Lands has gotten a company to pay up past dues worth over $100,000.

Public Lands has collected $130,000 in past due rents from Silk Road, the operator of the Saipan Country Club golf course in Chalan Kiya, Saipan.

This as part of their mission to "maximize financial returns to beneficiaries" and be "proactive in collections."

Public Lands said they also obtained a sublease to provide access to a landlocked parcel of land that it will soon ask for a request for proposal.

"This was a key factor in coming to terms with Silk Road," said DPL secretary Marianne Teregeyo in the statement, "because without the access road those public lands would be landlocked, making it difficult to market".

Teregeyo, in an earlier interview, said one of the "biggest" things they were working on was to send out notices and billings to people that have not made payments utilizing public lands, which had "no benefit for the people of Northern Marianas Descent."

She said that DPL aims to collect on these accounts so at the end of the fiscal year, they can transfer the money to the Marianas Public Land Trust. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

# BIG refutes ACG's comments on Tinian labor force

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S.-based Bridge Investment Group, the developer who plans to build a $150-million hotel resort on Tinian Harbor, said they have no problem at all with getting local labor and utilizing local products on Tinian in response to recent comments made by fellow Tinian investor Hong Kong-based Alter City Group.

BIG chief executive officer Phillip Mendiola-Long said that they have "a vastly different opinion" regarding local labor and goods on Tinian.

"We have seen very little difficulty with employing eager and talented local Tinian workers. In fact, we already employ over 70 employees with 60 of them being U.S. citizen local residents," Mendiola-Long said.

"Part of our success is in our valuation of our employees and our commitment to pay them at U.S. mainland wages. None of our employees earn less than $7 per hour with some earning as much as $15 and $30 per hour. Our employees also receive annual and sick leave accrual, yearly bonuses, and soon to be incorporated company shared medical insurance," he added.

BIG was responding to statements made by ACG executives regarding the conditions for their qualifying certificates that include having locals to fill 30 percent of their employee needs.

ACG projects needing "at least 1,000 staff for Phase 1 of the development" which would mean hiring about 300 locals on Tinian.

ACG chief executive officer Edvon Sze said that it would be very difficult for them to hire locally because the population on Tinian is not high.

"We prefer to hire locals, as a matter of fact. But again, it's going to be difficult for us and we don't think we will be able to do it even though we're willing to hire locals. And if we cannot achieve it, if we cannot comply with the conditions in the QC, there is no way we can get the benefit back at the end of the year," Sze said in an earlier interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

Sze also mentioned the requirement of buying local products which is no problem for them, but worrisome if there are no supplies of local products available.

According to Mendiola-Long, they have just announced the hiring of another 30 employees and have been overwhelmed by the local resident interest in these positions.

"Of course, when you are talking about 2,000 employees, there will be a significant challenge but at this point, I don't see where Alter City would require 2,000 jobs in the next three to five years. This means Tinian and the business community has the time and opportunity to work with the local high school, Northern Marianas College, and our residents abroad to encourage and entice young adults to return home for a good-paying job," Mendiola-Long said.

He added that BIG invests heavily on training their local employees on various aspects such as heavy equipment certification in Guam, safety training in the U.S. mainland, or local Occupational Safety and Health Administration certification.

"We are committed to spending what it takes to get Tinian's local workforce to where it needs to be. We have also developed a '1 plus 2' program where, when we have no choice but to hire a foreign worker, we shadow that foreign worker with two local trainees who are expected to learn the trade from the foreign worker. This not only develops our future workforce, but increases the skill levels on Tinian so that companies like Alter City can utilize them in the future," Mendiola-Long said.

Mendiola-Long said BIG's philosophy is all about localization.

"Whenever possible, we do more than is required to include local involvement whether it be through local employment, local donations, or purchasing our goods locally. Do we have the opportunity to hire abroad or purchase materials abroad, of course we do, but we feel that the extra cost of hiring local and purchasing local is better for the community and the company in the long run, especially since we plan to be a part of Tinian for a long time," Mendiola-Long said.

He added that the opportunity to create enough local labor and local goods suppliers on Tinian definitely exists.

"One just has to go the extra mile and be committed not only to their project investment but be solidly committed to a social investment as well. At Bridge Investment Group, I think we have proven it can be done and we are willing to show Alter City how it can be accomplished," Mendiola-Long said.

# Apatang seeks LibDay committee reports in their next meeting

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang is asking the 2016 Liberation Day committee to finalize everything and is seeking committee accomplishment reports when they meet next week. The committee held their weekly meeting yesterday at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference room.

Apatang said he wants all issues to be resolved in one meeting for them to move forward in planning the Liberation Day festivities. The carnival is set to open on June 10, while the Liberation Day parade is on July 4.

"Every time we meet new issues come out. We must resolve everything first so we can move forward with the next things that need to be done in preparation for the Liberation Day celebration," said Apatang.

"Our next meeting should be report of accomplishments by the committees and not talk about the same issues. There's nothing new," he added.

Among the issues that the committee agreed on yesterday is not to allow individuals to bring their beer around the carnival grounds.

Liberation Day overall committee chair Chris Leon Guerrero said people who want to consume alcoholic beverages should only stay within the vicinity of the beer garden.

"It has been like that the past years, we don't allow people to freely go around the grounds holding their beer. They should stay in one area. If it ain't broke why fix it?" added Leon Guerrero.

So far, only two beer concessionaires have submitted their intention to join the Liberation Day—FrankenBrau and Saipan Brewery. Concessionaires—either for beer, food, and non-food items—have until today to submit their application.

The beer concession has three slots left with the committee only reserving five. There were 25 concessions, food and others, that wanted to join the carnival.

Once the concessionaires are finalized they will be allowed to move in from June 6 to 9 to start preparing and designing their respective booths.

The concession fee is $1,500 that is applied to all vendors—beer, food and non-food items. Others interested have until 4pm to submit their application at the Mayor's Office.

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# ‘Traditional voyage a life-changing experience’

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

OceanSoul Society’s Dino Manning joined one of the trips by traditional navigators from Satawal Island in Yap State more than 10 years ago and the experience remains fresh in his mind.

“I could not explain and I can’t give the exact words but it was truly a life-changing experience,” said Manning after Saturday’s public presentation by the group of traditional navigators at the Chamolinian Utt in Garapan.

Manning joined the voyage from Satawal to Saipan in 2000 with the legendary master navigator Pius Mau Piailug and his son Sesario Sewralur navigating the Micronesian style single-hull sailing and voyaging canoe or Waaserak in Satawalese.

“Just seeing them navigate the seas without the use of modern equipment is extraordinary. Watching the wind direction, studying the position of the stars, and knowing the ocean current are some of the skills,” said Manning.

Carolinians have been sailing the Pacific using the traditional method—that also include reading the weather condition, feeling the swells and ocean current, and watching the direction of birds and other ocean species—even before European explorers discovered their islands.

Sewralur and his crew used the same route that the Japanese used during their occupation of the islands in their voyage to Saipan. The route was reopened in the 1970s.

“Sailing the seas using the traditional method is one of a kind and their knowledge should be shared. That was what [Sewralur] wanted, to keep it going, pass the skill to the youth and preserve the tradition,” Manning said.

Sewralur has been teaching the skill at the Palau Community College and is also training two of his sons. He and his crew also taught the basics to elementary, middle, high school, and Northern Marianas College students last week since arriving on Saipan last May 7.

“It was a very animated discussion. [Sewralur] and his crew answered the questions of the students. The interest is there, many want to learn so I expect them to be back, maybe with a larger group,” said Manning.

Sewralur, the captain of the Polynesian double-hulled voyaging canoe *Alingano Maisu*, his crew along with two other Micronesian canoes that arrived last Tuesday are expected to leave Saipan at 5pm today to attend the 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts in Guam.

The final leg of their trip, from Saipan to Guam, will depend on the tides and wind conditions.

## EL NIÑO

*From Page 1*

“fast drawdown issues” which means the volume of water is dropping, according to CUC acting executive director Gary Camacho.

Camacho added that one of their water sources, Donni Springs, which is among the main supplier for Garapan, has completely dried up.

From a production of up to 500 gallons per minute to 57 gallons per minute in February, it is now down to zero.

According to NWS, the drought associated with the weakening El Niño will continue to affect some Micronesian locales into the late spring and early summer.

“Climate model projections do indicate with high confidence that the El Niño pattern will persist until late spring, then transition to ENSO-neutral by the summer months and likely to La Niña status late in the year,” NWS said.

### La Niña Watch

The NWS-Climate Prediction Center together with the National Centers for Environmental Prediction and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society issued a La Niña Watch with their latest El Niño Advisory.

A La Niña Watch is issued by CPC when conditions are favorable for the development La Niña conditions within the next six months.

According to CPC, rainfall and thunderstorm activity diminishes over the central equatorial Pacific, and becomes confined to Indonesia and the western Pacific during a La Niña event.

The watch said that “La Niña is favored to develop during the Northern Hemisphere summer of 2016, with about a 75 percent chance of La Niña during the fall and winter 2016-17.”

It added that sea surface temperature anomalies decreased across the equatorial Pacific Ocean, especially in the eastern Pacific during the past month. The observed anomalies reflect a weakening El Niño and a trend toward ENSO-neutral conditions.

“Most models predict the end of El Niño and a brief period of ENSO-neutral by early Northern Hemisphere summer,” CPC said.

“However, there is clear uncertainty over the timing and intensity of a potential La Niña,” it added.

## MILITARY

*From Page 1*

new road-mobile intermediate range ballistic missile, or IRBM, the “DF-26,” which is “reported to feature nuclear, conventional, and anti-ship variants and a range of 3,000 to 4,000 kilometers, or 1,800 to 2,500 miles.

This means that Saipan, some 135 miles north of Guam, the southernmost island in the Mariana Islands chain, would be within this missile’s purported range.

“This range could cover U.S. military installations in Guam, roughly 3,000 km (1,800 mile) from the Chinese mainland,” the report states.

However, the report later notes that, “remaining challenges and gaps” in China’s capabilities “indicate the level of risk is still low.” The DF-26 “likely will remain extremely inaccurate until China extends its precision strike capabilities,” the report said.

China could employ surface- and submarine-launched attacks, the report said, “but with a high risk of the bombers being detected and intercepted by U.S. aircraft and anti-aircraft systems.” “The DF-26 is still unproven, and China has yet to develop a sea-launched” missile capabilities, the report went on to say.

Still, the report concludes by suggesting that policymakers continuously monitor the “performance and sustainability” of U.S. regional force posture to makes sure the U.S. “maintain its military edge.”

### CNMI concerned

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, for its part, said that they also echo concerns raised by Guam Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo on regional security threats, when sought for comment on the report.

“The administration agrees…that the continued diplomatic talks by President Obama and China’s President Xi Jinping can advance the economic opportunities between our countries rather than military threats,” said Office of the Governor spokesman Ivan Blanco.

“Furthermore, it is reassuring to know that PACOM (United States Pacific Command) continuously monitors known and unknown threats to U.S. soil in the Pacific.”

The commission report cites “Chinese writings” to suggest Guam, among others, are “focal points” for China’s developing capabilities.

“Guam is seen as a highly important feature in the purported U.S. containment strategy, with analysts noting its strategic position and its role as an ‘anchor’ of U.S. forces in the region and of the second island chain in particular,” the commission said, listing Taiwan and Japan as other places of strategic interest.

The report notes that the U.S. plans to enhance its military presence in Guam in the future” as part of the “Rebalance” in the Pacific and reducing dependency on foreign bases.

“The redeployment of 5,000 U.S. Marines to Guam to reduce the U.S. presence on Okinawa, long delayed, is now projected to begin in 2020. The importance of Guam to U.S. strategic interests and any potential war fighting operations in the Asia Pacific is thus growing, even as China’s ability to strike the island is increasing,” it said.

But the report also states that, “The inaccuracy of China’s IRBMs and vulnerability of its platforms that would be transiting to Guam indicate that the risk currently posed by China’s conventional regional strike capabilities to U.S. forces on Guam in a conflict would be low.”

“The primary concern would be the potential for China to fire massive numbers of DF-26 missiles China deploys as well as qualitative improvements to China’s precision strike capabilities, bomber fleet, in-air refueling capability, and submarine quieting technology, to monitor the risk going forward.”

## EX-AGING

*From Page 1*

will go to jail for a substantial term,” Wiseman said.

Wiseman said he has reviewed the doctor’s report stating the numerous illnesses the 71-year-old Mondala has and the medication being administered.

The judge said he has taken this factor into consideration in sentencing the defendant.

However, Wiseman said, a medical condition although can and will mitigate the sentence, “it will not cancel it out.”

Wiseman sentenced Mondala to the maximum term of five years in prison, all suspended except for one year, for the offense of forgery.

The judge sentenced Mondala to a $500 fine for the crime of use of public supplies, time, and personnel for campaign activities.

The defendant was to start serving the prison term at the Department of Corrections on June 1, 2016.

After completing the prison term, the defendant will be placed on probation for three years.

Mondala was required to pay restitution to the Aging Office in the amount of $68 plus another amount to be determined in 60 days for all other sums she wrongfully used or stolen based from the original charges.

Mondala was also ordered to pay $100 in court costs plus probation fee in an amount to be assessed by the Office of Adult Probation.

The defendant was required to write a letter of apology to the people of the CNMI and to the Aging Office within 30 days of her release, to be published in the “Letters to the Editor” sections of both two local newspapers.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Mondala with 41 charges, which carry maximum sentence of 126 years of prison term and/or up to $128,000 in fines.

Last Feb. 25, Mondala pleaded guilty to one count of forgery and one count of use of public supplies, time, and personnel for campaign activities.

As part of the plea agreement, assistant attorney general Matthew C. Baisley moved to dismiss the remaining 39 charges. The court granted the motion.

The 39 charges are 21 counts of forgery; six counts of misconduct in public office; seven counts of use of public supplies, time, and personnel for campaign activities; two counts of use of public position to obtain benefits for business or social acquaintances; one count of theft of services; one count of theft; and one count of use of office, staff or employees of a public office for personal benefit.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement pertaining to forgery, on June 15, 2009, Mondala signed the signature of another person to an invoice submitted by a commercial vendor to a government agency for payment, without permission of the person, in order to hide the eventual disposition of the goods covered by the invoice.

With respect to the offense of use of public supplies, time, and personnel for campaign activities, on Sept. 5, 2009, Mondala, in her capacity as director of Aging, knowingly caused items purchased with government funds to be delivered to persons working on behalf of a political campaign.

Such items were to be used to promote the candidacy of a particular political candidate, according to the plea agreement.

Assistant attorney general Baisley noted in the plea agreement that Mondala has provided a signed “medical condition letter” from Dr. Vicente S. Aldan regarding her various serious medical problems.

Both Baisley and defense counsel Loren Sutton recommended a lenient sentence on Mondala due to her age and health.

The Probation Office recommended a sentence of one-year imprisonment as well as probation and other terms.

At yesterday’s sentencing, Wiseman said although the crimes for which Mondala is convicted of involved her as then- executive director of the Aging Office, who owed fiduciary duty to the CNMI government and its people, stole $68 of government money, the original 41 charges of criminal conduct showed a pattern of stealing and using money and resources over a period of more than one year for a sum totaling $42,000.

Wiseman said Mondala used the government funds she was entrusted with for her own personal and political desires.

The judge said Mondala treated public funds like her own private piggybank taking out money and using the government resources whenever she felt like it.

Indeed, Wiseman said, in this case Mondala deprived many members of the *man’amko* of potential resources and benefits.

“The culture of corruption that existed under a former administration should be totally eradicated and persons actively engaged in such culture be punished pursuant to the law,” he added.

# Rota mayor supports sugar tax; Tinian mayor wants analysis

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The mayors of Rota and Tinian are not entirely opposing the proposed sugar tax to be implemented in the CNMI despite of the fact that commodities sold on their islands already have higher prices compared to Saipan.

Business leaders on Saipan have earlier aired their concerns that a 4-cent tax per fluid ounce of sugar-sweetened beverages and syrups can result to a price increase of these products to up to 300 percent.

Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig outright said he supports the bill.

"My position, to me, there's nothing wrong with that," Atalig said.

"An example is the liquor here on island. No matter how much you raise the price of that, they'll buy it because it's what they want. I don't see anything wrong with that. Yes it will affect the prices but even if you increase taxes on beer and cigarettes, people still buy them," he added.

For Atalig, there is just a need to balance the positive and the negative.

"We have to balance this. I understand that they are concerned about health as well, at the same time we're concerned about high prices," Atalig said.

However, Atalig added that the law may be repealed if its purpose of promoting healthier lifestyles is not met.

"[Its effect on health] remains to be seen and the law can be repealed if we see that it's not really working. I guess we need to look at it mid or long term," Atalig said.

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas, on the other hand, said he would like to see an analysis or study on what would be the effect of the proposed tax to the islands particularly economy-wise.

"I'd like to know if there has been any analysis how it will affect our economy but I think the intent is very noble. Their attempts to curb diabetes, hypertension, bad health…we really need to give the legislature credit," San Nicolas said.

"If the intent was to curb diabetes, then I got to respect that but at the same time I'd like to know how this is going to affect everybody's bottom line," he added.

Both mayors said they will provide written comments to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres who has yet to decide whether to sign or veto the bill passed by the Legislature last month.

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# Defense attorney says no scheme in Jucutan's case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Defense attorney Pamela Brown Blackburn yesterday told a federal jury that they will show evidence that there is no scheme in the case against former U.S. Army Reserve member Jordan M. Jucutan.

In the defense's opening statements, Blackburn asked the jurors to pay attention to the evidence and witnesses' testimony and find Jucutan not guilty of all charges.

Jucutan, a teacher, is on trial in the U.S. District Court for the NMI on charges of four counts of wire fraud and four counts of aggravated identity theft.

The U.S. government accused the defendant of engaging in a scheme to defraud and to obtain money by falsely claiming he referred soldiers to enlist in the U.S. Army Reserve through the Army Reserve Recruiter Assistant Program.

Blackburn said this case is not a simple one, but complex.

Blackburn said the evidence will show that Jucutan was assisting in the recruitment of potential soldiers and that he was not a recruiter.

The defense counsel said Jucutan is just a civilian soldier who was paid by contractor Document & Packaging Brothers Inc. (Docupak) to administer the Army Reserve Recruiting Assistance Program.

Blackburn said Jucutan was assisting in the recruitment of potential soldiers because he needed money for his then-expected baby girl and future children.

Blackburn said they will show, by U.S. government's own witnesses, that Jucutan helped people, that he is a good teacher, a good parent, and a trusted member in the community.

After Blackburn's opening statements, assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing called the U.S. government's first witness—William Stewart, a retired U.S. Marine Corps. officer who served as deputy program manager for Docupak in 2007 to 2009.

Stewart testified that he joined Docupak in 2005 and left the company in 2014. At present, he is jobless.

Stewart basically testified how the Army Reserves Recruiter Assistant Program (AR-RAP) worked, the goals and training modules of AR-RAP, the AR-RAP trainings that Recruiting Assistant (RA) received, information about online portal to earn an AR-RAP payment, method of AR-RAP payments, among other things.

Stewart also testified about expectations and duties of the Recruiting Assistants.

During Blackburn's cross-examination, Stewart said Jucutan's case is the seventh trial in the entire nation in which he testified involving a similar scheme.

He said he also testified at two trials in Guam.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom yesterday late afternoon, Blackburn was still cross-examining the witness.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Senior Judge Alex R. Munson is presiding over the jury trial.

## Tourist dies of possible drowning on Managaha

A 67-year-old Korean woman died possibly due to drowning while swimming on Managaha Island last Sunday morning, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

As of yesterday, the Department of Public Safety had yet to release information about the incident to the media.

Republic of Korea consular assistant Won Jun Lee confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* on Tuesday about the possible drowning of a Korean tourist at Managaha.

Lee went to the Office of the Attorney General Criminal Division on Tuesday to get the death certificate for the Korean tourist.

Lee said police placed the incident under further investigation.

Lee said the victim, along with two daughters, one son-in-law, and some grandchildren, went swimming on Managaha Island Sunday morning.

The consular assistant said family members later found the victim floating in the swimming area.

He said the victim was transported to the Commonwealth Health Center, but was pronounced dead on arrival.

Last Jan. 12, a Chinese male tourist drowned while swimming at Tachogna Beach on Tinian. ***(Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon)***

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# Man allegedly bit wife several times, yields marijuana

A 25-year-old man allegedly bit his common-law wife several times during an argument and was also later found in possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia over the weekend.

Kevin Christopher Imaikita Esteves was arrested in Dandan on Monday night for assault and battery, possession of controlled substance, disrobing the peace, and theft.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a $5,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for May 25 at 9am.

Chief public defender Douglas Hartig was appointed as counsel for Esteves. Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley appeared for the government.

Police Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that last Saturday afternoon, the victim called and reported a domestic violence at her residence in Chalan Kiya.

Aldan said investigation showed that on Saturday at 1am, Esteves and his common-law wife had an argument over Esteves not helping her in the house.

Esteves got angry and pinched her outer right calf hard. He then took money from her wallet, and bit her on the right cheek and inner right arm, causing a bruise and small scratch.

The victim told Esteves to stop but he bit her again on the back of her neck, causing a bruise.

Esteves allegedly stated he does not care if she dies and that he would come back and kill her anyway. He then drove away in her car with her wallet. She later called 911 and reported the incident.

Esteves was later arrested that same morning and during a routine pat down, a zip lock bag with possible marijuana was allegedly found as well as a drug paraphernalia wooden pipe in his possession.

When the wife confronted him about her $200 in her wallet, Esteves told her that she had spent it all, police said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

**MOBILE CLINIC** JON PEREZ

The blood sugar testing was among the services given by Maternal and Child Health Bureau personnel and nursing students of the Northern Marianas College during last Saturday's Mobile Clinic.

## Man gets 9-day prison term for hitting rear of car with his truck

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja Tuesday slapped a nine-day prison term on Brett Somorang Seman, a 27-year-old man who hit with his pickup truck the rear of a car that had his girlfriend onboard.

Seman pleaded guilty to criminal mischief and disturbing the peace.

Naraja accepted Seman's guilty plea and sentenced him to one-year imprisonment, all suspended except for nine days.

The defendant was given credit for nine days of time served. It means he will no longer serve prison term.

Seman was placed on supervised probation for two years and required to pay $200 in probation fee and $25 in court costs.

Seman was ordered to pay restitution to the victim in the amount of $4,450.85 before the expiration of his probationary period.

In the alternative, the defendant, who is a car mechanic, can make arrangements to fully repair the victim's car with prior approval from the victim.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, on Sept. 3, 2015, on Saipan, Seman repeatedly used his vehicle to strike a vehicle belonging to Anthony Benavente, causing significant damage to the victim's vehicle.

On the same day, Seman aggressively followed a vehicle with his girlfriend onboard, causing her to be afraid.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark served as counsel for Seman. Assistant attorney general Shannon R. Foley appeared for the government.

According to a police report, Police Sgt. Edward Ayuyu was heading east toward Dandan along Flame Tree Road last Sept. 3 at 3:59am when he saw two vehicles on the opposite lane.

Ayuyu observed a gray car had damage on the rear bumper, which was dragging on the road.

A white Mazda pickup truck, being driven by Seman, had no headlights and was too close to the car.

Ayuyu pursued the two vehicles. The car stopped and was overtaken by the truck. Seman, who was the driver of the truck, yelled at Ayuyu to check the car because, according to him, it hit his truck.

The car, a Nissan Maxima, had damage on the rear and bumper. The truck, a Mazda, had minor damage on the front, police said.

Police learned that Seman had chased and hit the rear of the car where his girlfriend took a ride.

Apparently she asked the owner of the car to drop her off at her house because Seman was too drunk. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

## 3 vets to attend convention in Thailand

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Three veterans from the CNMI will be attending the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Asia Pacific Convention from June 3 to 10 in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

VFW Post 3457 commander Mac Chargualaf, quartermaster Pete Callaghan, and district commander Dr. Ed Tudor will be attending the weeklong convention that will have various activities and seminars for war veterans in the Asia Pacific.

Chargualaf, who works as the safety officer of the Saipan Mayor's Office, said there would also be a one-hour meeting to recognize the outstanding post and at the same time give out district awards.

Veterans in posts in Cambodia, Chinese-Taipei, Guam, Japan, the Philippines, South Korea, and Thailand will be joining the CNMI in the convention.

Chargualaf, who is also the logistics committee chair of the 2015 Liberation Day, has also called several meetings with his fellow Vietnam War veterans as there are plans to recognize them for the July 4 celebration.

There are plans that Vietnam War veterans would join the Liberation Day parade and they would stay in a tent reserved for them during the festivities. The tent will be just across the grandstand where the VIPs will be sitting.

There will also be a brief ceremony of giving the Vietnam War veterans commemorative pins to honor the service they gave. Vietnam War veterans are those who served or have been deployed from Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975.

Chargualaf said you still qualify as a veteran even though you were not deployed and just worked in a military base or in the office.

Former Senate president Pete Reyes and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang are also Vietnam War veterans, joining about 30 more in the CNMI.


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
**RFP16-COTA/FTA-123**

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 14, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA)"**

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON AFTER, **MAY 19, 2016** AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING** WILL BE ON **JUNE 03, 2016 AT 10:00A.M.** AT THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA) CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR AT THE NMI RETIREMENT FUND BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN ANY PROPOSAL IF, IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALFREDA P. CAMACHO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S



**BROADCAST LICENSE ASSIGNMENT**

On April 29, 2016 an application was filed with the FCC to assign the license of stations KCNM (AM) Saipan and KZMI (FM), 103.9 MHz, Garapan-Saipan from Choice Broadcasting Company, LLC to Holonet Corporation.

The managers and members of the assignor are Richard C. Yu, Jeselyn T. Yu and Robert F. Kellye, Jr.

The officers, directors and owners of the assignee are Cecilia H. Lifoifoi, Hoth Holdings and Sophia Alvarez.

A copy of the application, amendments and related materials are on file for public inspection at KZMI-FM and KCNM, Sablan Bldg., San Jose Saipan.



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
**RFP: RFP16-DPS/HSO-125**

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 7, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR ENHANCEMENTS, MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR ISLAND-WIDE TRAFFIC SAFETY INFORMATION SYSTEMS (ITSIS), A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE"**

COPIES OF THE RFP MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF DPS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
**ITB NO.: ITB16-COTA/FTA-124**

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 10, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"PURCHASE OF TWENTY (20) 2-WAY HANDHELD RADIO UNITS, ONE (1) BASE RADIO AND LAND MOBILE RADIO AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TRANSIT AUTHORITY"**

THE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON AFTER, **MAY 19, 2016** AT COTA, OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, 2ND FLOOR, NMI RETIREMENT FUND BUILDING, ISA DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH FTA FEDERAL CONTRACT CLAUSES AS APPLICABLE.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IF, ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALFREDA P. CAMACHO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S



*JOE HILL, Esq.,*
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 234-6806/7743
FAX: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**TIANRONG YANG SABLAN**
Petitioner,
Versus
**JOSEPH JR. D. SABLAN**
Respondent

FCD DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0182

**SUMMONS**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONDED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within (30) days after service of the Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 4th day of May, 2016.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court



**Robert Tenorio Torres**
**Attorney at Law**
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

*Attorney for Petitioners Solvinialynn Ada Torres and Ryan Ethan Torres*

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**In the matter of the Adoption of:**

**T.J.B.A., Minor Child,**

**By:**

**SOLVINIALYNN ADA TORRES aka: SOLVINIALYNN JOREEN BASALISO ADA and RYAN ETHAN TORRES,**

**Petitioners.**

FCD-AD Case No. 16-0142

**AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR ADOPTION**

Notice is hereby given that on 23rd day of May 2016, at 1:30 pm, the Court shall hold a hearing on Petitioner's Petition for Adoption on the date and time stated above before Judge Govendo at the CNMI Superior Court, Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice, Susupe Saipan.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

## 2016 MMAC

# 'I want Angel Ray's story to be known'

JON PEREZ

Cancer survivor Angel Ray T. Guerrero, right, listens as fellow survivor, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, reads his speech in last Friday's Marianas March Against Cancer at the Hopwood Junior High School grounds in Chalan Piao.

**By JON PEREZ**
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Geralyn Dela Cruz personally saw the hardship that Angel Ray T. Guerrero endured in his battle against cancer and that's why she felt that the community must know his story. The now 21-year-old, who was diagnosed with medullablastoma in 2007, was the guest speaker of the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer last Friday.

Dela Cruz said she met Guerrero the same year the latter was diagnosed with the type of cancer that affects males 8 to 18 years within the Pacific region. That's why the 2016 MMAC overall committee chair was emotional when Guerrero also thanked her for the support.

"I saw him at his worst and saw him undergo chemotherapy for his treatment. That's the reason behind, as the committee chair, why I wanted him to be the guest speaker," Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune* after Tuesday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's restaurant.

"I saw what his family had gone through in his battle with this dreaded disease. It was hard for his parents and the entire family. That's why it is nice for him to share his story and for the community to know the battle that he fought," added the Corporate Social Responsibility director of Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

Guerrero underwent treatment at the Kapiolani Women's and Children's Clinic for 15 months where he had six surgeries—including a major operation on his brain to partially remove a tumor almost the size of a tennis ball—since the cancer was spreading rapidly to his brain.

He was also the first to donate a sample of the tumor to the University of Hawaii Cancer Center for research.

Dela Cruz, said that at every MMAC, cancer survivors usually thank the support of their families and friends. She added that the caregivers, the unsung heroes, should also be recognized for their help.

"We tend to forget the caregivers in helping cancer patients. For their patience, understanding, and also supporting the families in dealing in one of the difficult times of their lives," said Dela Cruz.

"These people who taken care and help in the recovery of cancer patients like [Guerrero] also share the burden, grief, and hardship that patients and their relatives are going through. This is also something that we should focus on. Caregivers should also be recognized," she added.

### Record-breaking event

Dela Cruz also said that Friday night's MMAC is a record-breaking event after raising a total of $177,000 cash and in-kind contributions. Over $144,000 is cash. "The record-breaking number just shows the entire community is committed to the cause."

"We could not have done this without the support of the entire MMAC committee, our sponsors, donors, and the entire community. It just shows the economy is getting better, that is one of the reasons why a lot of people gave more. The corporations or the families have extra money to share for a worthy cause," added Dela Cruz.

A total of 18 teams, five of which are rookie participants in the MMAC, joined last Friday's activity. "This means everyone is stepping up to the place. The entire MMAC committee is happy with the outcome."

She has nothing but praises for the entire MMAC committee. "I am very thankful to everyone in the committee. These are people who have full-time jobs but still they manage to put the time and effort in recruiting teams, solicit donations, and just put everything together in place."

"Also, a big shoutout to the community. We were surprised a lot of people came and joined us in the annual event. Imagine the things that we can do more if we unite for one cause. That is how we grow as a person and as a community."

UNITED STATES
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
**COUNCIL on DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**
Developmental Disabilities Basic State Grant Program
Bldg. No. 1312, Capitol Hill • P.O. Box 502565, Saipan, MP 96950-2565
Tel.: (670) 664-7000 • Fax: (670) 664-7030 • Email: info@cnmicdd.org
Website: www.cnmicdd.org

Each State Developmental Disabilities (DD) Council is required to submit a 5-Year State Plan to the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) outlining the intended use of federal funding allocated for its basic operational grant. State Plans are focused on improving the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities through full inclusion and participation in all aspects of community life. The federal government expects DD Councils to identify goals that can be achieved in five years using available resources. Federal law mandates that the State Plan address some or all the Areas of Emphasis established by Congress in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act).

***The Areas of Emphasis are as follow:***
Child Care – Community Supports – Early Intervention – Education – Employment – Health Related—Housing—Quality Assurance—Recreation—Transportation

CNMI CDD's proposed priorities are set forth in our Five-Year State Plan, which is developed based on data gathered from a statewide needs assessment of the most pressing needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and the areas of emphasis that the Council will focus on for the next five years. Strategies may include public policy advocacy, leadership developmental and collaboration to name a few. Please note that CNMI CDD does not provide direct services.

**CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities**
**State Plan for Federal Fiscal Years 2017 – 2021**
**Goals & Objectives**

**Goal 1 – Self Advocacy**
Promote and support the development of leadership and self advocacy capacity among people with development disabilities.

Objective 1.1 – Self-Advocacy
Provide support to strengthen a State Self-Advocacy organization led by people with developmental disabilities.

Objective 1.2 – Self-Advocacy
Support opportunities for people with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders.

Objective 1.3 – Self-Advocacy
Support participation of people with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.

**Goal 2 – Service System Improvement**
The Council will work with partners on at least two (2) systems change initiative and provide information, education, and skill building activities each year so that individuals and/or students with intellectual and developmental disabilities will have improved transition services from high school through post-school transition into meaningful post-school outcomes with adequate services and supports and increased opportunities in employment in the CNMI.

Objective 2.1 – Employment
By 2021, create more opportunities for young adults and job seekers with developmental disabilities to have meaningful employment opportunities with competitive wages and exhibit their abilities and skills in an inclusive environment working alongside their peers without disabilities by working with the CNMI Disability Network Partners to educate communities, training staff, and writing one state policy by September 2021 to improve services that support fully integrated, competitive employment.

Objective 2.2 – Transition
By 2021, collaborate with the CNMI Transition Coalition, the CNMI Disability Network Partners and others to create or improve at least one practice designed to improve transition outcomes for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities from high school through postsecondary education/training.

**Goal 3 - Respite Care**
Family members and/or Caregivers of individuals with developmental disabilities and individuals who are medically fragile will have access to respite services made available through the Commonwealth Respite Services Program (CNMI PL 14-36).

Objective 3.1 - Respite Care
By 2021, collaborate with the Commonwealth Respite Service Program and partners to improve and/or expand training to thirty (30) respite caregivers in underserved and unserved communities of Tinian and Rota.

**Goal 4 - Emergency Preparedness**
People with developmental disabilities will be afforded the same level of safety as all, be involved in the process to plan, advocate, and take charge for themselves when an emergency arise, and to have a clear idea of what to do in such situation.

Objective 4.1 – Emergency Preparedness
By 2021, collaborate with the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, CNMI Disability Network Partners, Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, CNMI CORE and other community -based stakeholders to effectively incorporate the functional and accessibility needs of CNMI residents with developmental disabilities in emergency planning.

**Your Input Wanted:**
Public review of the Five Year State is required by law and helps us improve the plan. The public review period provides a 45-day window of opportunity for CNMI residents to evaluate the newly developed Goals and Objectives, and to share their comments so we can make improvements. We also welcome your suggestions for strategies and activities to help us achieve these goals and objectives.

The Five Year State Plan will be available on online at www.cnmicdd.org. Other accessible formats of the document are available upon request. Please contact our office at (670) 664-7003/5 or email psablan.cnmicdd@gmail.com.

Please submit written comments by email to psablan.cnmicdd@gmail.com or by fax at (670) 323-7006. For each comment, please reference goal number and objective number.

**Comment period:**
May 19 – July 2, 2016
Comments must be received via email by 4:30 p.m. CHST on July 2, 2016.

Thank you for your input!

# BEH conducts training on mosquito control

## »Initial results of vector survey show no *Aedes Aegypti* in CNMI

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A four-day training is being conducted to educate various agencies in the CNMI on how to control arbor virus and its vectors as mosquito-borne diseases continue to spread throughout different parts of the globe.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Division of Public Health are leading the training with agencies such as the Saipan, Tinian, and Rota mayors offices, Department of Public Works, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Customs, and Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality are attending the training which will last until Thursday.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
Entomologist Dr. Huy Nguyen from Australia trains representatives from CNMI agencies on mosquito control. Contracted by the World Health Organization, Nguyen also led a team in the CNMI in conducting a vector survey on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"We invited people that are tasked to oversee not only the introduction [of mosquitoes] but of the cleaning up and reduction of mosquito-breeding sites," Environmental Health director John Tagabuel said.

An entomologist from Australia, Dr. Huy Nguyen, was contracted by the World Health Organization to conduct the training.

The training includes an overview of infectious and communicable diseases, basic awareness to entomology and vector, epidemiology, mosquito biology, and mosquito surveillance and monitoring.

### Vector survey

Prior to the training, DPH together with Nguyen conducted a survey of areas where mosquitoes possibly breed and what kind of species there are on the islands on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"We wanted to know what mosquito species are on the islands basically especially in the urban areas," Nguyen said.

Nguyen said they collected samples from water containers found in villages.

Initial results of the survey showed that mosquito species such as *Aedes Saipanensis, Aedes Guamensis,* and *Aedes Albopictus,* or the Asian tiger mosquito, are on the islands but no *Aedes Aegypti,* which is the primary vector or carrier for diseases such as zika, dengue, and chikungunya.

"In this survey, we didn't find any. But there were pockets of them that have been previously identified," Tagabuel said.

"The picture is almost good news because there are no *Aedes Aegypti* but having said that, their population can rebound," Nguyen said.

The information from the survey will be presented to various agency heads on Thursday.

"We're just making an assessment and then that will inform if any action will be done or not," Nguyen said.

According to Tagabuel, they have identified the need to conduct this kind of survey after Typhoon Soudelor.

"Hopefully with this new information, we will present it to our boss and the Legislature to see if they can at least fund one to help us out to maintain, even though a very small surveillance but at least we continue that. That's important because mosquitoes are major vector for disease," Tagabuel said.

# Hertz, Triple J Motors support Jr. Tennis Championships

Hertz and Triple J Motors are sponsoring the IT&E Northern Marianas Junior Championships set for May 15-22. It's a tennis tournament in which 190 players from 29 countries compete to gain points and world rankings.

Hertz and Triple J Motors are happy to be contributors to this event, in which many junior tennis stars will be able to increase their chances of going to college. So far, three players are attending college on tennis scholarships.

"We are so excited to support an event that promotes healthy activity as well as helps our young people go to college," Alex Camacho, general manager of Hertz, stated at the event. Both Triple J affiliated companies have been sponsors since 2014.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, Triple J Motors general manager Randy Steele, tennis players Robbie Schorr, T.J. Rush Apis, Ken Song, and Moris Villanueva, and Hertz Saipan general manager Alex Camacho.

At this year's tournament, the CNMI is represented by 14 players, two of which hold the No. 1 ranking in their age groups. Carol Lee, a local resident, is ranked in the top 700 tennis players in the world for the 16-and under age bracket. ***(PR)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### SSHS PTSA meeting on May 26

Saipan Southern High School will have a Parent-Teacher-Student Association meeting on Thursday, May 26th, 2016, starting at 5:45pm in the school cafeteria.

Everyone is invited to participate and receive updates on the school year and PTSA activities. Following the brief meeting, there will be mini workshop sessions that will provide valuable information on cyberbullying, parenting, and other relevant topics.

For more information, call SSHS at 664-4000 or Glenna Sakisat-Palacios Reyes, SSHS PTSA president, at 483-3278. Or you can find us on facebook.com/mantaptsa. ***(PR)***

### Kagman school PTSA meeting on May 19

Kagman schools' last PTSA meeting of the year is tomorrow, May 19, 5om at ChaCha OceanView Middle School cafeteria. The agenda will focus on summer events such as summer school, summer camp options, and family fun day plans. We will also be having the end of the year raffle! Grand prize is a flat screen TV! ***(PR)***

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### May 19, 2000

#### NMI eyes increased participation in e-commerce

Efforts are now underway to keep the Northern Marianas abreast with the latest electronic innovation in enhancing commerce as House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial yesterday called for increased CNMI participation in the digital trade. Speaking before members of the Society for Human Resource Management, Mr. Fitial said the CNMI should be in the same playing field as most of the world's economies which are currently driven by technological improvement. Northern Marianas consumers currently account for big volume of imported items purchased from the mainland U.S. through transactions in the Internet despite the absence of local laws that protect them from e-commerce shams. Government officials expect a sharp increase in the volume of imported items purchased through the Internet following the participation of the Commonwealth in the largest international fight against e-commerce swindling.

#### PSS receives website funds

The U.S. National Center of Education Statistics this week issued a $20,000 check to the Public School System for the enhancement of its recruitment and information website meant to lure more teachers into exploring career opportunities in the CNMI. The existing PSS website is currently lacking data to give non-CNMI residents a clear picture of the state of the local public school system. CNMI and another school in California are only two among 56 states and insular areas that have been granted the web development contract for two consecutive years. The highly competitive funds are available for projects in 56 states and insular areas and may only be awarded for programs related to educational data improvements. PSS worked with U.S. Department of Education officials to "stretch" the program area to include the display of information via the website.

### May 19, 2004

#### BOE chair: PSS needs to do more to raise reading levels

Board of Education chairman Roman C. Benavente acknowledged that the Public School System needs to do more in educating its students in view of recent findings that some of them graduate from elementary with a reading level of a second-grader or even below. Benavente said the PSS administration headed by commissioner Rita H. Inos has been assuring him that they are moving ahead "but I wonder why this result [came out]." A reading test using a scientifically based program called STAR assessment and Accelerated Reader that was conducted among students at Hopwood Junior High School showed that most of them read below their grade level. Records showed that in school year 2002-2003, 93 percent of 7th grade students read below 7th grade level—with the average reader at 3rd level, and with more 2nd and 4th level.

#### CUC: Old engines causing power outages

There is no power crisis in the Commonwealth but power outages occur due to old machines, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications chair Timothy Villagomez had earlier asked CUC officials to shed light about "reports" that Commonwealth's power system is on the verge of a "meltdown." The utility firm has hired a private consultant, Harris Group, to do the project's scope of work. The CUC board approved the proposed privatization of CUC's power plants in July 2003.

### May 19, 2005

#### New delegate bill passes US House panel

The newly introduced CNMI delegate bill has unanimously passed a U.S. House panel and is now up for floor discussion, according to Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio yesterday. In his 2005 report to Legislature, Tenorio disclosed that the bill, H.R. 873, was unanimously approved yesterday by the House Resources Committee, chaired by Rep. Richard Pombo (R-Calif.). Pombo introduced H.R. 873 in February this year. The measure is identical to last year's bill, H.R. 5135, which had passed Pombo's committee but did not get to the Senate on time before the 108th Congress adjourned. The CNMI holds its general elections in November this year. After every two years, the Commonwealth holds its mid-term elections.

#### Admin needs only to enforce, not impose, new poker fees

If the administration is dead-set in collecting more fees from poker operations, then it only needs to enforce the necessary rules and regulations and not impose additional fees, according to the House leadership. Part of the enforcement would be the imposition of penalties against violators, he said. "There should be some kind of financial penalty in order to discourage operators who are breaking the law." Despite findings of illegal operations on Tinian and Saipan, the Department of Commerce does not see the need to close down shops or impose fines against the operators.

# Kapileo is new SSHS Manta Ray Battalion commander

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cadet/Cpt. Matthew Kapileo, second right, is the new Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion commander. He is seen here also posing with Senior JROTC instructor CSM (Retired) Richard Basa.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Manta Ray Battalion pose for a group photo after the Change Of Command Ceremony.

Cadet/Cpt. Matthew Kapileo has been promoted to Cadet/Lt. Colonel and will be the new commander of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion.

He succeeded Cadet/Lt. Col. Annika Matias during a change of command ceremony at school, and will serve as battalion commander for school year 2016-2017. The ceremony, which was held on May 17, at 9 am, was attended by U.S. Army Recruiter Sergeant First Class Susie Acfalle, Yvonne Pangelinan, Ray Muna, SSHS PTSA president Glenna Reyes, SSHS PTSA vice president Velma Sanchez, SSHS PTSA treasurer Velma Mafnas, former battalion commander Joann Bandales, SSHS principal Martha Kintol, senior JROTC instructor CSM (Retired) Richard Basa, JROTC instructor SGM (Retired) Joaquin Kiyoshi, and other distinguished guest, parents, and students. Kapileo joined the JROTC program since his freshman year and worked his way up to being the Bravo Company first sergeant, assistant battalion security and logistics officer, Bravo company commander, and now as the battalion commander.

"From Day 1, I knew that I wanted to be a part of the JROTC program here at Saipan Southern High School. I also figured that it wouldn't be easy, but I'm always up for the challenge." Kapileo said in his first speech as the Manta Ray Battalion commander.

Kapileo told the cadets that he is looking forward to working with them and that he was going to prove that he deserves this position by leading the Manta Ray Battalion to success. He thanked those who worked by his side and helped him to get where he is now.

"I'd really like to thank my siblings, instructors, and everyone I've met along the way because they gave me the motivation to do things to the best of my abilities. Especially my mom, for providing nonstop support for me even if I'm not always around because I'd be busy with JROTC."

The mistress of ceremony was C/2LT Adyl Marie Feliciano. The commander of Cadets for the ceremony was C/CPT William Johnson, while the color guard team was led by C/CSM Sergio Mendiola. C/SSG Amber Pangelinan and C/CPL Arriane Antonio led the playing of the CNMI and national anthems.

The battalion staff was led by C/CPL Collins Flores. The HQ Company was led by C/CPT Jessica Palacios and C/1SG Shem Batallones. The Alpha and Delta company was combined and was led by C/CPT Mariol Joy Lopez and C/MSG Renz Yutuc; Bravo company, C/1LT Jamila Alegre and C/1SG Joshua Mendiola; and Charlie Company, C/CPT Eric Mafnas and C/1SG Dylan Ackerman.

After the change of the command ceremony, JROTC provided entertainment and refreshments and announced the new battalion executive officer, C/MAJ Ezekiel Rafanan, and new battalion command sergeant major, C/CSM June Alipio. ***(PR)***


Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**JVA No. 16-025**

**Opening Date: Friday, May 13, 2016**
**Closing Date: Until Filled**

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking for a qualified Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM"). CUC is a public utility corporation, operating on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI")—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical paradise of fourteen islands. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear aqua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing, international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

### Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM")

**RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:**
Reporting directly to CUC's Deputy Executive Director or designee, the "DM" fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051.

- The incumbent of this position is under the direct supervision of the Deputy Executive Director (which may also be known as the Deputy Director for Water and Wastewater)
- Manages and oversees the CUC Drinking Water and Wastewater Division.
- Supervises employees in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- Manages, leads, motivates, and develops staff towards attaining needed training, skills, and certifications.
- Participates in the management of drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; user fee system development.
- Other duties as required or assigned.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**
- An equivalent to a four year college degree, and major work in engineering, or other field related to work with large-scale utilities;
- Five years of proven, specialized experience as a manager in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- Skills: Proven management and communication skills; Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff.
- Experience: Experience with managing drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; Experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
- Knowledge: Through knowledge of the operating principles and maintenance requirements of at least three (3) million gallons per day ("mgd") of an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant including primary and secondary treatment processes, oxygen production, and sludge digestion and dewatering.
- Preferred Requirements:
  - Bachelor's degree in Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Civil Engineering, Public Administration, or a degree related to the position.
  - Current (unexpired) level 3 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in water treatment, and water distribution.
  - Current (unexpired) level 2 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in wastewater treatment, and wastewater distribution.

**LOCATION:**
SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

**SALARY INFORMATION:**
Based on specialized experience as a water and wastewater utility manager in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia. Also, based on educational achievement and specific (unexpired) certifications stated in this ad as preferred requirements.

**POSITION:**
One (1).

**CONTRACT:**
Two-year; subject to renewal.

**RELOCATION EXPENSES:**
If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

**An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer**
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

# Hello, out there: Kepler finds 1,284 more planets, some Earth-like

NASA's Kepler Space Telescope continues to expand the boundary of mankind's understanding of space.

Last week, NASA announced that it has confirmed Kepler's discovery of 1,284 new planets orbiting distant stars. Of this cornucopia of exo-planets, NASA believes nine of them are potentially habitable for life as we understand it. An estimated 550 are rocky planets with 100 of those clocking in at around Earth-size or slightly smaller. Planets that are solid and rocky as opposed to gaseous are more likely to harbor the conditions that will be conducive to life. Liquid of some sort is probably the one non-negotiable necessity for all life — alien or human.

Two Earth-size alien worlds in particular look especially promising: Kepler-1638b and Kepler-1229b. One is in the sweet spot of a "Goldilocks zone" of a nearby star and the other is on the inner edge of that zone circling its star. There's a lot of excitement about such worlds because they indicate that Earth-like planets may be more common than once believed. Given that there are probably billions of planets circling stars just in our galaxy, this is an amazing possibility.

NASA published its findings in the Astrophysical Journal and briefed researchers from leading universities on its discovery. The known number of planets has effectively doubled, thanks to the probe's relentless scanning of nearby stars in our Milky Way.

While ground-based telescopes have yet to confirm Kepler's discoveries, there is little doubt that it will happen. The science is solid and based upon meticulous observation of light fluctuations by stars as the planets transit past them. In capturing these fluctuations, Kepler has been an invaluable window into our cosmic neighborhood.

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# Friday the 17th

**By JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

It is not Friday nor the 17th but Friday the 13th of last week is usually translated as Friday the 17th in Italy when news about it is printed. That is because Italy finds Friday the 17th a scary day. "Scare" is a guiding reality in many of our operations.

"Scare" is imbedded in the U.S. psyche that uses the market crash of '29 and the Depression as its sob story. It is the perennial story of Wall Market itself; anxiety of making sure the market index stays stable and on upward trend, until the next crash, is expected irrespective of what measures are put in place to avoid it.

It is the ethos that guides our public school system. With an alleged allegiance to what is "real and authentic", our children are taught early on to be #1 (was the theme of Yale and Harvard of the '80s), using awards in the old carrot-and-stick mode to motivate children. Awards, plaque of recognition, and the gold medal are dangled to quicken motivation.

The Olympic Games still gives out medals at the end of an event but the Games since '68 promoted the notion that one competes vs. one's record rather than try to "best" others.

Lining up to enter the classroom, or head for the dining room, my first graders compete on who is the "leader" of the line. I 've printed a numbered sequence of my roster so that person(s) in front today takes the back end the next day. Most assigned individuals get into a "barking Sarge" mode to line up and "discipline" the children. Thus, I put a wrench on the design once in a while simply on the "teachers say-so." Tyrants like their roles!

Historically, the elliptic plane of the solar system has us looking up to the constellations. I explained to my first graders, while we were studying the days of the week that they were derived from the planets of our familiar.

First day, of course, is Sunday followed by Monday, obviously the days of the sun and the moon. Continuing with the names of solar bodies, the Latin based calendars refers to Iberian names, Tuesday for Martes, that of Mars. Wednesday is Miercoles, Mercury; Thursday is Jueves, Jove (Jupiter); Friday is Viernes, Venus of the bright star; and Saturday is Saturn.

To the Jews, YHWH rested on the 7th day, which is the Sabbath, thus, Sabado to the Christian community, and Subalu to the Marianas.

Of the English, four were derived from the Germanic terms that honored gods of the Teutons, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, were Tiu (Twia), Woden, Thor, and Freya (Fria), respectively. We look up to the gods. But the association Friday the 13th as a "bad luck" day is a modern superstition of the last two centuries, "without god." Earlier, the Romans and the Greeks avoided Tuesday the 13th, and Friday the 17th is a "no-no" day in Italy.

Friday the 13th that is the pervasive modern superstition that alarms the CoC for the business transactions on the sheer refusal of the public to engage in commerce and trade on a day of bad luck. We write after the 17th and do not share the superstitious bias by virtue of day and number that lottery crowds follow when choosing their jueteng bets, but we are cognizant of the "scare" the day carries.

We wonder how we develop scary biases. "I choose love" by Shawn Galloway is a song a couple of my students' mothers play, or have heard play in their parent's radio, so when we started playing it in class, I was not surprised at the number of children who can mimic the words. It is a choice between "fear and love" that the song wails, and since we "decide and choose" is big in our class theme, it got an airing.

A word on how we increased the use of songs in our pedagogy. At least two methods guide teaching on making children literate. One is the traditional way of making them to recognize sounds (phonemes) associated with the alphabet. Thus, they read by making the standard sounds.

The second is applied to dyslexics and other students challenged by the inability to be literary phonetic. We ask them to repeat what they hear, and songs come into this category because students repeat what they hear.

Either way—letters into phonics, or phonics into the alphabet—the children are led to read. Unfortunately, because of a bias toward the first group, we lump the second group as needing "special education" rather than accept the reality that every person learns differently, and the so-called "handicapped" are just differently abled!

The matter of choice is a normal human activity. Some choose to start at defensive "fear" rather than the welcoming arms of "love," a choice either intentionally done, or learned behavior from a social contest. It is tragic when our milieu teaches us to fear.

The Peace Builders Pledge discourages "put-downs" but we award children for striving to be ahead of their peers, measured on the shaky grounds of written and oral tests. In grade 1, tell-tale-ing replaces put-downs, and they are just as vicious.

Friday the 13th, or the 17th, the choice of "fear" remains a choice we make!

**EDITORIAL POLICY** Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Why students need algebra

**By DARREN GLASS**
The Philadelphia Inquirer

In his recent book, "The Math Myth: And Other STEM Delusions," political scientist Andrew Hacker argues, among other things, that we should not require high school students to take algebra.

Part of his argument, based on data some have questioned, is that algebra courses are a major contributor to students dropping out of high school. He also argues that algebra is nothing more than an "enigmatic orbit of abstractions" that most people will never use in their jobs.

There is no doubt that this kind of argument resonates with people who had bad experiences in a math class in their past, and for this reason Hacker's book is getting lots of attention. On the other hand, there are many reasons why I and many others in the mathematical community disagree with Hacker's opinions.

Fundamentally, Hacker has a misunderstanding of what algebra is.

The word "algebra" comes from the Arab word "al-jabr," which means "to balance." Using it in a mathematical context dates back to a Persian manuscript in the ninth century, which introduced the beginnings of what grew into what we now study in high school.

The big idea that distinguishes algebra from the mathematics that had come before is to think of operations taking place simultaneously on whole collections of numbers rather than on a single number.

We all learn early in life that two plus one equals three and that two times three equals six — that's simple arithmetic. A natural follow-up question would be whether there are any numbers other than two that, if you multiply them by the number that is one greater, gives a result of six.

This is cumbersome to say in words, which is why mathematicians prefer to phrase the question in terms of variables and ask about the numbers x that give you x(x+1)=6, or equivalently, x(squared)+x-6=0.

At this point, you may be having flashbacks to a high school class where you had to memorize something called the quadratic formula, which allowed you to deduce that the only numbers x satisfying that equation are 2 and -3. But the right way of thinking about the quadratic formula is not as a tedious expression but as a process that allowed you to find the solutions x for any relationship of the form ax(squared)+bx+c=0.

In other words, using algebra has allowed us to go from solving a single arithmetic problem to solving many problems simultaneously without doing substantially more work.

Hacker believes that algebraic thinking will not be relevant to most students in their later lives. I could not disagree more.

The idea of performing operations on a collection of numbers at the same time is exactly what you are doing when you put a formula into a spreadsheet and then use the same formula on different cells.

You use algebraic thinking when you figure out how to adapt the recipe you use for a family of four to a dinner party of 12.

You use algebra to calculate how the results of the next ballgame will affect your favorite team's winning percentage.

You use algebra when you decide whether it makes more sense to itemize the deductions on your income tax return or take the standard deduction.

Even people whose jobs never require them to write down an equation, let alone solve an equation for x, use algebraic thinking all the time in their daily lives.

In Hacker's defense, I have no doubt that some high school algebra teachers, maybe even a majority of them, spend their time emphasizing arcane definitions and complicated formulas instead of the problem-solving skills, copious applications, and intrinsic beauty that should be at the core of an algebra class.

As with too much of education these days, the push toward standardized testing has led to an increased emphasis on memorization over conceptual understanding, and that is a shame.

But if math classes are not doing what we think they should, then we need to address those issues directly through better support and training for our teachers and better curricula, rather than holding them up as a straw man that we can use to attack the idea of students taking mathematics at all.

# The DC statehood: Some remarks and possible solutions

**By TIBERIU DIANU**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Recently, there have been several attempts to assimilate the District of Columbia status to the one of a U.S. territory. In the midst of a presidential election year, the D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser, a Democrat, intends to prepare a statehood package for the District of Columbia when the new administration takes office, irrespective of who wins in November. Supposedly, this is "a new front in the District's long-running fight for equal rights." [1] When asked about this, the former Republican presidential hopeful John Kasich opined that this would be "just more votes in the Democratic Party." [2] On the contrary, Hillary Clinton grabbed the opportunity, and promised to be "a vocal champion" for DC statehood just weeks before the city's presidential primary. [3] And this approach was seen as precarious vis-à-vis the almighty "Taxation without Representation" slogan.

Let's try to figure out if there is any elephant in the room. On the face value, sure, why would the D.C. residents not have their own representatives in the Congress, since they – don't we all know? – pay (federal) taxes, go to war and fulfill other citizenship duties.

As a twenty-plus-year resident in the District, I say: it's not going to happen. Not anytime soon. Here are several reasons:

■ The absence of political will at the top: Washington, D.C. has been a city dominated by Democrats and a Republican-dominated Congress will never allow several Democratic congress people showing out of the blue. In addition, Maryland and Virginia Democrat representatives (let alone their Republican colleagues) do not want a D.C. commuter tax imposed on their own residents;

■ The lack of viability as a state: D.C. does not have the means nor resources to sustain a viable territory or economy in order to protect its residents within its borders; that aside, if the new state would exclude a small federal enclave (as proposed, in an attempt to avoid a constitutional amendment), this would reduce its territory to a new minimum;

■ The inexistence of an independent budget: according to the Article I of the Constitution, the Congress has the power to Exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever" over the District. Although the D.C. representatives (including the current mayor) have threatened to pass budget autonomy laws, federal judges have constantly stricken down such initiatives over the years (see in 2014, for that matter), ruling that only Congress can act;

■ The absence of such an express provision in the U.S. Constitution: according to the Article IV, Section 3, Clause 1, the Constitution empowers the Congress to grant statehood, while Clause 2 stipulates that "The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State." (our emphasis, TD). First, the legislator uses the word "territory" but not the word "district." Second, even if one claims that D.C. is "other Property belonging to the United States" no state can be prejudiced. Originally, the D.C. land was part of Virginia and Maryland. Virginia land has been already returned to this state, and Maryland can soon have the same claim if D.C. pushes for statehood.

Historically, the U.S. Congress has followed a standard procedure for granting statehood to territories. The territory holds a referendum to determine the local population's desire for or against statehood. If the majority vote is for statehood, the territory addresses a statehood petition to the Congress. Then, the two Congress chambers, House and Senate, pass a joint resolution, by a simple majority vote, accepting the territory as a state. Finally, the U.S. President signs the joint resolution, and the territory is acknowledged as a U.S. state.

For this reason, the five U.S. territories—American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands—have all a clear constitutional path toward statehood, provided by the aforementioned Article IV, Section 3. The Federal District of Columbia does not have one.

In turn, what the D.C. mayor tries to do is to organize a "D.C. referendum" in November—not supported by the U.S. Constitution—and to force the Congress to acknowledge it. If this attempt succeeds, it will be quickly challenged in court.

The D.C. administration has tried in the past to promote lawsuits seeking to grant D.C. residents congressional voting rights (in 1998) or seeking permission to levy a commuter tax on non-District residents (in 2003), but they were all equally unsuccessful.

There is a good reason the District is not a state. The U.S. Constitution provided for a federal district under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Congress, and the District is therefore not a part of any U.S. state. Which means that D.C. should remain a politically neutral entity. And, since it's not, being forever dominated by Democrats, there is no ground to become a state. The future D.C. (state) Constitution that the Democrats envision in the future will certainly be a biased organic law, with provisions overtly against the current U.S. Constitution (like, banning The Second Amendment legal gun carrying, and other standard progressive issues regarding legalization of drugs and "equal marriage act," to name just a few). [4]

Now the elephant (not the Republican, but the Democrat one!) is more visible in the room. What reason might some Democrats have to reignite the discussion about the D.C. statehood now? That is, to press the issue of D.C. having two senators and one representative for the new administration, no matter who wins in November?! Or maybe because of that. Or maybe because there is a perceived danger that the Republicans (as disunited as they seem to be right now) may actually have a chance to conquer back the White House. In such a context, two senators and one representative, all (perpetual) Democrats, will be a major victory for the progressive Donkey fans.

However, for those residents who still feel disenfranchised (myself included), there are several alternative solutions:

■ Territory relocation: to reincorporate the D.C. territory (except a small federal enclave) to Maryland and/or Virginia (as it was before), and increase to 1 (one) the number of U.S. representatives for these states; people would be represented in the Congress House of the Representatives, but not in the Senate. Demographically, this is a fair solution.

■ Federal tax exemption: to declare the D.C. territory federal-tax free, like the U.S. territories; this will give satisfaction for the residents non-represented in Congress, plus it will create a boom in the number of new residents and businesses. Some may object that since Washington is a "federal district", it should continue to pay federal tax, but in arguing so, we are back to square number one "taxation without representation" dilemma; and for those still interested to recover retroactively the back federal taxes imposed "unconstitutionally," they can challenge the issue in court. Fiscally, this is a fair solution.

■ Granting more electoral votes: according to the 23rd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (ratified in 1961), the District receives three electoral votes in presidential election, which makes the District having an intermediate position (by having electoral votes both for party primaries and general elections, and a non-voting Congress member), between the U.S. territories (with electoral votes in party primaries, but not in general elections, and no voting Congress members) and U.S. states (with both electoral votes in primary and general elections, and voting Congress members). Congress could grant D.C. three more electoral votes in presidential elections (corresponding, so to speak, to the required voting one representative and two senators), doubling the current number, from three to six. Electorally, this may be considered by many as a fair solution.

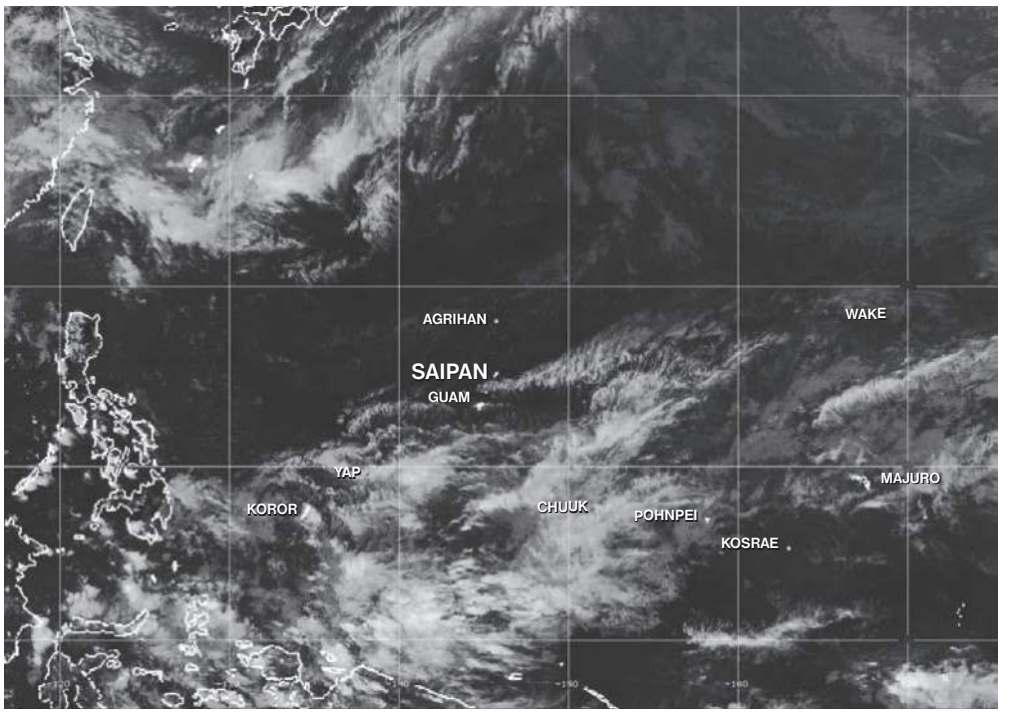
*Tiberiu Dianu is a legal scholar, book author, graduate of the American University Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C., the University of Manchester Faculty of Law in Manchester, UK, and an exchange scholar of the Oxford University in Oxford, UK. He currently lives in Washington, D.C. and works for various government and private agencies.*

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲87° ▼77° | ▲87° ▼77° | ▲87° ▼77° | ▲87° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼77° |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A tropical disturbance is centered south of Koror near 4N134E with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in patchy areas across the Republic of Palau and Yap state south of 10N from 130E to 142E. Converging surface winds and divergent flow aloft are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from southeast of Guam across Chuuk state between 12N and the equator from 146E to 152E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers northeast of Kosrae across the northern Marshall Islands between 7N and 11N from 165E to 180. An upper-level trough over Wake Island is causing cloudiness and patchy showers between Kosrae and Wake mainly within 150 miles of a line from 10N162E to 15N168E to 17N180.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam And Rota | Thundershowers | ▲88 | ▼80 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲87 | ▼78 |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | ▲90 | ▼79 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲87 | ▼79 |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | ▲88 | ▼79 |
| Kosrae | Partly Cloudy | ▲85 | ▼80 |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | ▲85 | ▼81 |

## Around the Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Mostly Cloudy | ▲66 | ▼58 |
| Beijing | Mostly Sunny | ▲86 | ▼55 |
| Hong Kong | Mostly Cloudy | ▲83 | ▼78 |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | ▲85 | ▼73 |
| London | Cloudy | ▲68 | ▼54 |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | ▲78 | ▼59 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲91 | ▼78 |
| Melbourne | Showers | ▲64 | ▼52 |
| Miami | Thunderstorms | ▲87 | ▼75 |
| New York | Mostly Cloudy | ▲66 | ▼54 |
| Osaka | Partly Cloudy | ▲81 | ▼64 |
| Paris | Showers | ▲66 | ▼53 |
| Pusan | Partly Cloudy | ▲78 | ▼56 |
| Rome | Showers | ▲67 | ▼54 |
| Salem | Partly Cloudy | ▲73 | ▼48 |
| San Francisco | Sunny | ▲68 | ▼53 |
| Seoul | Sunny | ▲89 | ▼58 |
| Tokyo | Mostly Sunny | ▲76 | ▼57 |
| Washington, DC | Cloudy | ▲62 | ▼52 |

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- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

## Tides

Saipan Harbor

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12:58 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.8 Feet |
| 6:42 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |
| 1:44 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.2 Feet |
| 8:05 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.7 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:47 AM | 6:40 PM |
| Friday | 5:47 AM | 6:40 PM |
| Saturday | 5:47 AM | 6:40 PM |
| Sunday | 5:47 AM | 6:41 PM |
| Monday | 5:47 AM | 6:41 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 4:34 PM | 3:54 AM |
| Friday | 5:21 PM | 4:34 AM |
| Saturday | 6:10 PM | 5:15 AM |
| Sunday | 6:59 PM | 5:57 AM |
| Monday | 7:49 PM | 6:43 AM |

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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# FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

## DEPARTURES

### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2924 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily |
| UA2922 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily |
| UA2921 | 1:30pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota |
| UA2920 | 2:20pm | 3:10pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| UA2928 | 6:05pm | 6:55pm | Daily |
| UA2926 | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2921 | 1:30pm | 2:05pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2921 | 2:35pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL297 | 4:20pm | 7:05pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 |

### SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| 7C3403 | 4:35am | 8:30am | Daily |
| 7C3401 | 4:30pm | 8:25pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 4, 7 |

### SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 1:30am | 6:35am | 3, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 |

### SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/701 | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA2924/191 | 4:15am | 8:55am | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA2924/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:15am | Daily via GUM |
| UA2922/183 | 8:40am | 8:50pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA2922/193 | 8:40am | 10:35pm | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR |
| UA2921/183 | 1:30pm | 8:50pm | 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2921/193 | 1:30pm | 10:35pm | 5 via Rota-GUM-ROR |
| UA2921/191 | 1:30pm | 8:55am+1 | 1, 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2920/183 | 2:20pm | 8:50pm | 2 via GUM |
| UA2920/193 | 2:20pm | 10:35pm | 2 via GUM-ROR |
| UA2920/191 | 2:20pm | 8:55am+1 | 2, 6 via GUM |
| UA2928/191 | 6:05pm | 8:55am+1 | 1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA2926/191 | 9:50pm | 8:55am+1 | 1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM |

### SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/721 | 2:20am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA2922/159 | 8:40am | 9:55pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA2921/159 | 1:30pm | 9:55pm | 1, 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2920/159 | 2:20pm | 9:55pm | 3, 6 via GUM |

## ARRIVALS

### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2923 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA2925 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA2921 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA2920 | 12:10pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 via Rota |
| UA2927 | 4:45pm | 5:35pm | Daily |
| UA2929 | 8:30pm | 9:20pm | Daily |

### GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2920 | 12:10pm | 12:45pm | 2, 3, 6 |

### ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2920 | 1:15pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 |

### NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL298 | 10:30am | 3:05pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 |

### SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3402 | 10:10am | 3:30pm | Daily |
| OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ625 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:30am+1 | Daily |

### BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:05pm | 1:55am+1 | 3, 6 |

### SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

### BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 4:40pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |

### GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |

### MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA190/2927 | 9:55am | 5:35pm | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA190/2929 | 9:55am | 9:20pm | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| PR110/UA2925 | 10:05pm | 8:05am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| UA192/2925 | 9:45pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM |
| UA192/2920 | 9:45pm | 1:50pm+1 | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota |
| UA192/2927 | 9:45pm | 5:35pm+1 | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM |
| UA192/2929 | 9:45pm | 9:20pm+1 | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM |
| UA184/2925 | 11:30pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA184/2920 | 11:30pm | 1:50pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM-Rota |
| UA184/2927 | 11:30pm | 5:35pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA184/2929 | 11:30pm | 9:20pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |

### HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA116/2925 | 9:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA116/2921 | 9:55pm | 1:00pm+1 | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA116/2920 | 9:55pm | 1:50pm+1 | 1, 5 via GUM-Rota |
| UA116/2927 | 9:55pm | 5:35pm+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA116/2929 | 9:55pm | 9:20pm+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 6:30AM | 6:45AM | Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 12:30NN | 12:45NN | Daily |
| 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |
| 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |
| 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 12:00NN | 12:15NN | Daily |
| 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |
| 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:45AM | 8:15AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

### FOR FISCAL YEAR '17 NDAA:

# Bordallo pushes for war claims, H-2B visa flexibility

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**— Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday spoke before the House Committee on Rules to propose the text of H.R. 44, as modified, the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act, as an amendment to H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

She also proposed an amendment that would provide the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) with flexibility in renewing H-2B visas on Guam. The House Committee on Rules determines the process for considering legislation on the floor of the House as well as what amendments may be offered during debate. The Rules Committee approved both of Congresswoman Bordallo's amendments, which will be considered tomorrow during continued debate on the FY17 NDAA.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A screen shot of Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo before the House Committee on Rules hearing yesterday.

Congresswoman Bordallo requested that the Rules Committee make the text of H.R. 44, as modified, the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act in order so that she may offer it on the floor of the House. Her amendment would implement recommendations of the Guam War Claims Review Commission and authorize the payment of claims for the survivors of the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II as well as the descendants of those who died as a result of the occupation. She noted that she has offered a version of this amendment in past years and it had been included in previous defense authorization bills during the 111th Congress. Congresswoman Bordallo's amendment does not add to federal spending and utilizes a budgetary offset of additional section 30 funding above Fiscal Year 2014 levels that is received by Guam for federal personnel stationed on island. This offset was agreed to by local leaders following objections by fiscally conservatives preventing war claims from being included in the previous year's defense bills or passed as a standalone measure.

Bordallo also requested that her amendment granting USCIS flexibility in renewing H-2B visas on Guam be made in order so that she may offer it on the floor of the House. Her amendment would provide flexibility to USCIS in extending H-2B visas to employers on Guam who do work in support of the Marine realignment. Congresswoman Bordallo successfully included report language during the HASC markup of the defense bill that encourages DoD and USCIS to work to resolve recent denials of H-2B visa renewals. That language did help to ensure discussion between USCIS and DoD but it became clear that regulatory flexibility did not exist and legislation was needed to grant the flexibility. In her testimony before the Rules Committee, she noted that increased denials has already caused delays on military build-up projects, including the possibility of increasing timelines to complete projects which could led to increased cost to military construction projects.

"I appreciate that the Rules Committee has made my amendment on Guam war claims in order. At the very least, the people of Guam deserve an honest debate on the floor of the House of Representatives regarding this important issue for our community. I thank my friend Congressman Rob Bishop, Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee who voted for H.R. 44 as a standalone bill in the 111th Congress and who did not object to my offering the amendment to this year's defense bill. It is important to bring justice to the people of Guam who suffered and endured this brutal occupation during World War II. Now that this amendment has been made in order, I look forward to the debate on the floor and will fight to succeed. I urge everyone in our community to support this effort when it is debated tomorrow.

"I also appreciate that the Rules Committee allowed my amendment to give flexibility to USCIS for renewing H-2B visas on Guam. These denials place a strain on progress for the Marine realignment and our health care system. I look forward to offering this amendment on the floor of the House and making our case for the importance of this amendment to our national security and our health care system. I urge my colleagues to support it." ***(PR)***

# Bordallo disappointed by Babauta's decision to join congressional race

Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo said she's disappointed that former Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Tony Babauta will run against her in the race for the U.S. territory's lone non-voting delegate seat in U.S. Congress.

"Since Tony started his work for me when I was in the Guam Legislature to his time as a professional staff member on the House Natural Resources Committee as well as during his time as the Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas, Tony has made no secret of his desire to run for public office on Guam. I have always supported his aspirations and given him guidance and counsel based on my five terms as a senator in the

Babauta

Guam Legislature, two terms as lieutenant governor, and seven terms as Guam's Delegate to Congress"

Bordallo said as Babauta's biggest advocate to become the Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas and someone who supported him through the good and difficult times in that position, she's disappointed by Babauta's decision to potentially run against her this election.

"Regardless, if he files his paperwork by the late June deadline, I look forward to a spirited campaign where I can highlight my record of service and achievements for the people of Guam as well as my vision for Guam's future. I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve our community throughout my life, and I hope the people of Guam will continue to place their faith in me, just as they have done throughout my 40 years of service to them." ***(PR)***

# The Boss brings an island favorite back to airwaves

**TAMUNING, Guam**— On Monday, May 16, 2016, Choice Broadcasting Company welcomed veteran radio announcer Cindy "Sister Cindy" Hanson to Boss 104. Hanson will assume afternoon drive duties Monday through Friday from 2pm to 6 pm and assist with Promotions and Digital Sales of the station's website and newly launched mobile app. "I have wanted Cindy at The Boss for a long time," said content manager and mid-day host Albert Juan. "It's going to be really cool to finally have her on the team."

Hanson has an extensive background in broadcasting and media, having worked as a radio personality, writer, marketing & public relations professional in Guam and the US mainland for over 30 years. "It's great to have someone with Cindy's level of expertise joining us," said managing partner Ray Gibson. "I've been concentrating on putting together the most talented and enthusiastic group of people I can, individuals who share my vision of radio for Guam. Cindy is a perfect fit for The Boss."

Hanson, best known by her radio moniker "Sister Cindy," is a local favorite, popular for her quirky sense of humor and quick wit. "I am so excited," she said. "I feel like a kid at Christmas—going back to radio, my first love, and doing it with a group of people I adore. Ray has put together an amazing team and the company is investing in the stations with new equipment, new studios and office space. It's a dream come true!"

Hanson's first radio show will air on Wednesday, May 18, 2016. "I can't wait. I have wanted to be on The Boss for such a long time. It's the station I listen to and now it's the station I work for—it's a dream match!"

Listeners are encouraged to download the station's new mobile app which allows for live streaming so they can enjoy Boss 104 throughout the day. The Boss and its sister station, KNUT 101.1 FM, are located on Marine Corps Drive in Tamuning, across from intersection leading in to Harmon. ***(PR)***

# 333 to graduate at UOG Spring '16 Commencement

The University of Guam will recognize 333 prospective graduates at 12 noon on Sunday, May 22, 2016 at the UOG Calvo Field House during Spring 2016 Commencement Ceremonies. Of the expected graduates, 291 will receive undergraduate degrees and 42 will receive graduate degrees.

"The university continues to showcase the wonderful achievements of its students, and this commencement will be no different," said UOG President Dr. Robert Underwood. "We will also have the opportunity to recognize and honor two powerful women in the region who perpetuate progressive ideals and preserve values that help give our region a voice to the world."

Salii

Heine

## Commencement speaker

The commencement speaker will be Her Excellency Dr. Hilda C. Heine, President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Formerly the education minister and past president of the College of the Marshall Islands, Heine was voted president of the island nation in January 2016, making her the first female president of any independent Pacific nation.

President Heine is also the first Marshallese citizen to obtain a doctorate and just one of three women in parliament. She is an alumna of the University of Oregon where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Education; the University of Hawaii, Manoa where she earned a Masters in Education; and the University of Southern California where she earned a Doctorate in Education Leadership.

## Honorary degrees

UOG will also confer an honorary Doctor of Laws degree to Heine alongside Bilung Gloria Gibbon Salii, Queen of Koror, Palau, who will receive an Honorary Master of Micronesian Traditional Knowledge. Salii, who has served as a member of the national legislature and is the founder of the Ngarachemayong Cultural Center and the women's group Mechesil Belau (Women of Palau), will be recognized for her efforts to preserve the environment and traditions of Palau.

UOG Spring 2016 Commencement Ceremonies will begin at 12 noon on Sunday, May 22, 2016. Attendance is by ticket only. Graduating students are encouraged to pick up their tickets at the Admissions Office and to call 735-2214 for more information.

For more on the University of Guam Spring 2016 Commencement Ceremonies, visit www.uog.edu/spring-2016-commencement. ***(PR)***

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FULL SIZE (4FTX6FT) BASE $129.95

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MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

# Enhancing capability of public auditors through strategic planning

This week the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions is in Palau working with the Office of the Public Auditor to develop its strategic plan.

Palau Public Auditor Satrunino Tewid said, "The Office of the Public Auditor is an independent agency of the Republic. We have a mandate to conduct audits of any entity established or funded by the Republic or local government."

The strategic development of any organization requires visualizing a desired future and creating a plan to make that vision a reality. With six auditors and two support staff, the Office of the Public Auditor has limited capacity and resources. Small supreme audit institutions, such as Palau's Office of the Public Auditor, are challenged to both deliver their mandate and have plans in place to guide the best use of resources for an effective impact.

One of PASAI's strategic priorities across the Pacific is to help supreme audit institutions develop and implement a realistic strategic plan and publicly report against these strategic plans.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Public Auditor Satrunino Tewid, front center, and staff with Sinaroseta Palamo-Iosefo, front right, with staff from the Office of the Public Auditor.

PASAI's Practice Development director Sinaroseta Palamo-Iosefo is working with the staff to develop their knowledge and experience in developing the strategic plan.

Palamo-Iosefo said, "During the week we talked about the components of a strategic plan and the necessary phases in developing the plan. The staff was introduced to the SAI Performance Measurement Framework as a tool to conduct the office's needs to inform the strategic planning process.

Tewid said, "My staff are enthusiastic about articulating our office's vision, mission and values which will set our auditing direction for the next three years."

This assignment is supported by the Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. ***(PR)***

# New Pacific climate change program to have regional recognition

**SUVA, Fiji**—Fifteen countries are meeting this week in Nadi, Fiji, to finalize the competencies that will make up Pacific regional qualifications in sustainable energy and resilience, including climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

A follow-up to a planning meeting held last October, this work is part of the European Union Pacific Technical Vocational and Education Training (EU PacTVET) Project which is being jointly implemented by The University of the South Pacific (USP) and the Pacific Community (SPC).

It is also part of a EURO 6.1 million project, which commenced in August 2014 under the Adapting to Climate Change and Sustainable Energy (ACSE) Programme and is funded under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF 10) Pacific regional envelope.

By having a regionally accredited program in Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Energy, the standards of training will be raised for climate change adaptation and disaster risk management in the Pacific, while at the same time increasing the potential employment opportunities for those who wish to study abroad or migrate within the region.

"The development of this course will provide the Solomon Islands and the region with an avenue to develop environmentally accepted practices of refrigeration and air conditioning for example, that conforms to international environmental conventions," the Dean of the School of Technology and Maritime Studies for the Solomon Islands National University, Solomon Pita, stated.

"More importantly this will contribute to the capacity of the region to adapt to the impacts of climate change," he added.

Discussions will also include the development of learning and support resources in order to meet the training needs for addressing climate change adaption and sustainable energy at the national and regional level, and the appropriate methods of delivery these services, as well as assessing these mechanisms.

The meeting will summarize the regional input used to develop regional qualifications in climate change adaptation and sustainable energy.

The European Union Deputy Head of Delegation, Johnny Engell-Hansen, said ''The European Union is looking forward to the outcomes of the meeting whereby the Pacific will, once again, lead the way to ensure a climate-resilient sustainable development. The adoption of Technical Vocational and Education Training in sustainable energy and climate resilience on a regional basis would be a world first.''

Running parallel to this meeting will be the Industry Standards Advisory Committees (ISAC) meeting which is the culmination of over six months of work by the EU PacTVET Project, in partnership with the Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC) and SPC's Educational Quality and Assessment Programme (EQAP).

SPC's education specialists are collaborating with the EU-PacTVET project partners to get the regional qualifications registered on the Pacific Register of Qualifications and Standards.

The two meetings will combine on the final day (Thursday 19 May) to endorse the creation of a new Certificate I-IV program in Resilience and Sustainable Energy, which will be regionally recognized.

The ISAC regional members include representatives from Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Tonga. ***(PR)***

# Building Pacific region capacity to observe, analyze, apply ocean data

Participants from across the Pacific and ocean science experts from around the world will convene in Noumea from May 23 to 27, 2016 to take part in a regional workshop aimed at building capacity and awareness on ocean processes, ocean observations and data applications, as well as advancing the design and coordination of a Pacific Islands ocean observation network.

The Pacific Islands are "Large Ocean States" spanning an area larger than the African continent, yet just 2 percent of the region is land set in the Pacific Ocean.

The ocean is essential to Pacific Islanders' way of life, and the region is renowned for its seafaring history and use of traditional knowledge, for example, for navigation. Yet oceanographic capacity is limited within the Pacific Islands region, and generally resides within local meteorological services.

However, there is a strong interest in increasing capacity to collect, analyze, and communicate the latest oceanographic data across a number of sectors such as meteorology and climate services, fisheries, marine trade and tourism. Increasing capacity in these sectors will contribute to improving the livelihoods of Pacific people, and allow them to more effectively engage in the global ocean community.

Day 1 of the workshop will be a meeting of the Pacific Island Marine and Ocean Services Panel (PIMOS Panel). This panel was established by the Third Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, in 2015.

The panel's purpose is to provide technical advice to the PMC on matters related to marine and ocean services, with an emphasis on oceanography and marine meteorology, to strengthen coastal multi-hazard early warning systems, national preparedness and maritime safety support mechanisms at the national and regional level.

These priorities are set out in the Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy and other international and regional frameworks such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the S.A.M.O.A Pathway.

This meeting is organised by the Joint World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) in coordination with the French Institute for Research and Development (IRD) and the Pacific Community (SPC).

The training is also made possible by support from New Caledonia Meteorological Service, South Pacific Observatory (GOPS), EU-PACENET-plus, Pacific Island GOOS (PIGOOS), Australia's Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS), the Australian Bureau of Meteorology's Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac), China's National Center of Ocean Standards and Metrology of (NCOSM), World Meteorological Organization (WMO)/Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), USA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Climate Observation (OCO).

Currently there is a growing international awareness of the importance of the oceans, for example, highlighted at the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference (COP 21) in Paris, and previously at the 3rd UN SIDS conference in Samoa. ***(PR)***

# Business

## Overtime pay may become reality for more US workers

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—More than 4 million U.S. workers will become newly eligible for overtime pay under rules to be issued Wednesday by the Obama administration.

The policy changes are intended to counter erosion in overtime protections, which date from the 1930s and require employers to pay 1 ½ times a worker's regular salary for any work past 40 hours a week.

In the fast food and retail industries in particular, many employees are deemed "managers," work long hours, but are barely paid more than the people they supervise.

Under the new rules, first released in draft form last summer, the annual salary threshold at which companies can deny overtime pay will be doubled from $23,660 to nearly $47,500. That would make 4.2 million more salaried workers eligible for overtime pay. Hourly workers would continue to be mostly guaranteed overtime.

The White House estimates that the rule change will raise pay by $1.2 billion a year over the next decade. In addition, some companies may instead choose to reduce their employees' hours to avoid paying the extra wages.

"Either way, the worker wins," said Vice President Joe Biden on a conference call with reporters Tuesday afternoon.

Business groups, however, said the changes will increase paperwork and scheduling burdens for small companies and force many businesses to convert salaried workers to hourly ones in order to more closely track working time. Many employees will see as a step down, they said.

AP

In this May 6, 2016, file photo, President Barack Obama speaks in the briefing room of the White House in Washington. Roughly 5 million more U.S. workers will soon become eligible for overtime pay under new rules issued by the Obama administration.

"With the stroke of a pen, the Labor Department is demoting millions of workers," David French, a senior vice president for the National Retail Federation, said. "Most of the people impacted by this change will not see any additional pay."

The overtime threshold was last updated in 2004 and now covers just 7 percent of full-time, salaried workers, administration officials said. That's down from 62 percent in 1975.

The higher threshold, which will take effect Dec. 1, will lift that ratio back to 35 percent, Labor Secretary Tom Perez said. Perez has spearheaded the administration's effort and worked on formulating the rule for the past two years.

The new rule is intended to boost earnings for middle- and lower-income workers, Perez said, which have been stagnant since the late 1990s. Overtime pay hasn't gotten as much attention as nationwide efforts to increase the minimum wage, but it could have a broad impact.

"This in essence is a minimum wage increase for the middle class," Judy Conti, federal advocacy coordinator for the National Employment Law Project, an advocacy group, said.

Overtime has become a sore point for many managers, assistant managers, and management trainees in the fast food and retail industries.

Despite their titles, they have complained in lawsuits against chains such as Chipotle and Dollar General that they spend the vast majority of 50- or 60-hour weeks working cash registers, mopping floors, or performing other tasks typical of regular employees. Yet they don't get paid time and a half when they clock more than 40 hours in a week.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Court rejects blocking health warning on sugary drinks ads

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—A federal court in Northern California has rejected an effort to block a new San Francisco law that requires health warnings on ads for sugary drinks. U.S. District Court Judge Edward M. Chen's decision Tuesday clears the way for the law approved by city lawmakers last year to take effect in July. The ordinance requires the warnings to appear on ads for soda and other sugar-sweetened beverages that appear on billboards, buses, transit shelters, posters and stadiums within the city. The labels would read: "WARNING: Drinking beverages with added sugar(s) contributes to obesity, diabetes and tooth decay." The American Beverage Association and other groups have sued the city to overturn the law. Chen denied their request for an injunction to keep the measure on hold while the case proceeds.

### Japan's economy grows at 1.7 pct annual pace in Jan-Mar

**TOKYO** (AP)—Japan reports its economy grew at a better than expected 1.7 percent annual pace in March, as higher government outlays helped offset weakness in business investment and exports. The Cabinet Office reported Wednesday that the quarterly pace of GDP growth for the world's third-largest economy was 0.4 percent. Most economists had forecast that growth would be flat at best. Private consumption, which accounts for Japan's largest share of growth, rose by an anemic 0.5 percent, while public demand expanded by 2.6 percent. Business investment and spending on housing declined. Despite the upbeat first quarter figures, recent weak data have raised expectations that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe may put off a planned sales tax increase due in April 2017 to prevent further disruptions, given the faltering progress toward a sustained recovery.

# Nation

## Clinton, Sanders in tight Ky. race; Sanders, Trump win Ore.

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Bernie Sanders won Oregon's presidential primary and battled Hillary Clinton to a neck-and-neck outcome in Kentucky on Tuesday, vowing to soldier on as Clinton sought to blunt his momentum ahead of her likely general election matchup against Republican Donald Trump.

The race in Kentucky was too close to call, but Clinton wrote on her Twitter feed: "We just won Kentucky! Thanks to everyone who turned out. We're always stronger united." With almost all the votes counted, Clinton held a narrow lead of less than one-half of 1 percent as she tried to avoid ending the primary season with a string of losses to the Vermont senator.

Trump won the sole GOP contest in Oregon, where Sanders was declared the winner shortly after the polls closed in the liberal-leaning state.

Rallying supporters in California, Sanders said he would end up with about half of the delegates in Kentucky and promised to press forward even though he would need to win about two-thirds of the remaining pledged delegates to end the primary season in a tie.

"Before we will have the opportunity to defeat Donald Trump, we're going to have to defeat Secretary Clinton," Sanders said to cheers in Carson, California.

Clinton holds a commanding lead of nearly 300 pledged delegates over Sanders and a dominant advantage among party officials and elected leaders known as superdelegates. The outcomes in Kentucky and Oregon did not dramatically change the delegate count and the former secretary of state remains on track to clinch the nomination on June 7 in the New Jersey primary.

Tuesday's elections took place amid new questions about party unity following a divisive weekend state party convention in Nevada. Supporters of Sanders tossed chairs and made death threats against the Nevada party chairwoman at the event in Las Vegas, arguing the party leadership rigged the results of the convention in favor of Clinton.

In a sign of the tensions between the two sides, Sanders issued a defiant statement Tuesday dismissing complaints from Nevada Democrats as "nonsense" and said his supporters were not being treated with "fairness and respect."

## Distracted engineer blamed in deadly Amtrak wreck

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The Amtrak engineer whose speeding train ran off the rails in Philadelphia last year was apparently distracted by word that a train nearby had been hit by a rock, federal investigators concluded Tuesday, pinning most of the blame on him for the wreck that killed eight people.

"He went, in a matter of seconds, from distraction to disaster," National Transportation Safety Board member Robert Sumwalt said.

At the same time, the NTSB said a contributing factor was the railroad industry's decades-long failure to fully install positive train control, GPS-based technology that can automatically slow trains that are going over the speed limit.

Had positive train control been in use along that stretch of track, "we would not be here today," said Ted Turpin, an NTSB investigator.

Engineer Brandon Bostian heard about the rock-throwing on the radio and was apparently so preoccupied by it that he lost track of where he was and accelerated full-throttle to 106 mph as he went into a sharp curve with a 50 mph speed limit, investigators said at an NTSB hearing to pinpoint the cause of the May 12, 2015, derailment. About 200 people aboard the Washington-to-New York train that night were injured.

Bostian, who has been suspended without pay since the crash for speeding, did not attend the hearing. He and his lawyer did not immediately return calls and emails seeking comment.

Ron Kaminkow, an Amtrak engineer who also serves as secretary of the industry union consortium Railroad Workers United, said the board's conclusion underscores the need to put two engineers on trains. "If one buys into this theory, having another engineer or conductor would've prevented the wreck," he said.

## South Carolina passes bill banning abortion after 19 weeks

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** (AP)—The South Carolina Legislature passed a bill Tuesday prohibiting abortion after 19 weeks, becoming the 17th state to pass the restrictive ban.

The legislation will now head to Gov. Nikki Haley's desk. The Republican said in March she will almost certainly sign it, but wants to look at the details once it reaches her.

Similar laws are in effect in 12 states. They've been blocked by court challenges in three others, and the U.S. Supreme Court has yet to rule on the ban's constitutionality. A South Dakota law signed in March takes effect this summer.

In Utah, a related law, also signed in March, requires doctors to provide anesthesia to a fetus at least 20 weeks in the womb.

The South Carolina bill is among several fronts abortion rights supporters say make having the procedure tougher. Abortion opponents have also passed laws in other states requiring clinics to get admitting privileges for doctors and banning a procedure commonly used in the second trimester, called the dilation and evacuation method.

The sponsor of South Carolina's bill, Rep. Wendy Nanney, said she's hopeful the law is a step to eventually "get rid of abortion altogether."

"I firmly believe life begins at conception and anything we can do to protect human life I'm all for," said Nanney, R-Greenville.

The South Carolina House approved the compromise 79-29. The Senate approved it 36-9 in March.

The ban allows exceptions only if the mother's life is in jeopardy or a doctor determines the fetus can't survive outside the womb. The measure's limited definition of "fetal anomaly" means it would be illegal to abort a fetus with a severe disability if the child could live.

Such anomalies are generally detected around 20 weeks.

That "fetal anomaly" exception was crucial for the bill clearing the Senate, where Democrats had blocked the legislation for years.

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invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

**Avionics Technician (2)**
Requires: High School graduate/GED or Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program. FCC license or NCATT certification or an equivalent foreign license. Four (4) years experience in an avionics/electrical career field; or two (2) years of accredited schooling in aviation electronics and two (2) years related experience. Performs various troubleshooting and evaluation of aircraft avionics systems; removal and installation of panels and components; and repair work. Must be skilled in the use of specialized aircraft testing equipment.

**Aircraft Maintenance Technician (5)**
Requires: Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Performs various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. Must be skilled in the use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA A&P License or an equivalent foreign license.

**Ground Support Equipment Mechanic (3)**
Requires: Diploma from technical/vocational course on automotive/diesel engines with minimum of 2 years experience in repair and overhaul of gas and diesel engines for automobiles and other specialized motorized equipment. Performs mechanical and electrical repairs, welding repairs, corrosion treatment and painting on all GSE equipment and vehicles. Must also be skilled in parts fabrication.

**Load Planning Specialist (1)**
Requires: Associate's Degree with 2 years of aircraft ramp operation experience with specific airline certification as a load planner. Ensures that aircraft load is distributed and secured in accordance with aircraft weight and balance requirements, ensuring that the aircraft's operational or structural limitations are not exceeded. Must be computer-literate and can perform manual weight and balance calculations.

**Airport Service Agent (Aircraft) (3 Part-time)**
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 2 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning. Performs interior cleaning of various aircraft to include cabins, lavatories and galleys. Must be knowledgeable in the use of different kinds of cleaning equipment, tools and materials.

**Airport Service Agent (Passenger) (2 Part-time)**
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in passenger or customer service. Assists passengers by answering inquiries regarding flight information/booking/ reservations, checking-in out-bound passengers and luggage and assisting them in boarding flights, assisting in-bound passengers through immigration and customs. Must be computer-literate with excellent oral and written communication skills in both English and Chinese. Must be able to lift 70 pounds and carry it for at least 100 yards.

**Lead Aircraft Maintenance Technician (1)**
Requires: AS Degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering with 4 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the manager, performing various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. Must be skilled in the use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA A&P License or an equivalent foreign license.

**Lead Airport Service Agent (Aircraft) (1)**
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the manager, performing interior cleaning of various aircraft to include cabins, lavatories and galleys. Knowledgeable in the use of different kinds of cleaning equipment, tools and materials. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver's license.

**Lead Airport Service Agent (Passenger) (2)**
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in passenger or customer service. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the supervisor, assisting passengers by answering inquiries regarding flight information/booking/reservations, checking-in out-bound passengers and luggage and assisting them in boarding flights, assisting in-bound passengers through immigration and customs. Must be computer-literate with excellent oral and written communication skills. Must be able to lift 70 pounds and carry it for at least 100 yards.

**Lead Customer Service Agent (Cargo) (1)**
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience as a cargo handler. Handles and accepts cargoes according to the IATA, FAA, TSA, local airport, airlines and company regulations. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the supervisor, preparing documents for out-going and transfer cargoes. Must be able to operate forklift and other cargo-handling equipment and be able to lift 70 pounds and carry it for at least 100 yards. Must be proficient in the use of CSP Cargo Trac System.

**Lead Customer Service Agent (Ramp) (3)**
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in ramp cargo loading and unloading operations. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the supervisor, operating equipment for loading and off-loading baggage/cargo to and from the aircraft for both commercial and freight aircraft. Ability to teach operation of specialized equipment for aircraft servicing and ramp operations. Must be able to lift 70 pounds and carry it for at least 100 yards.

**Technical Operations Supervisor (1)**
Requires: Diploma from technical / vocational course on automobile gas / diesel engines with minimum 4 years experience with a supervisory capacity in electrical, electronic, pneumatic, hydraulic system and gas / diesel engine maintenance. Plans work and supervises mechanics in performing mechanical and electrical repairs, welding repairs, corrosion treatment and painting on all GSE equipment and vehicles.

**Terminal Operations Supervisor (1)**
Requires: Associate's degree in related field. Five (5) years equivalent work experience. Specific airline certification as load planner. Sufficient mathematical skills to perform manual weight and balance calculations. Thorough knowledge in all areas of ramp, cargo and flight operations. Knowledgeable in FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations

**Accountant (1)**
Requires: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with 2 years of progressive experience in accounting. Airline industry experience preferred. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, Peachtree and Microsoft software.

**Accounting Manager (1)**
Requires: College degree with financial management major and 3 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 5 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, Peachtree and Microsoft software. CPA not required.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than June 2, 2016. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

**POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer**
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

# World

## Bloody anti-crime purge may haunt next Philippine president

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Nine years ago, Father Amado Picardal helped bury a teenager from a slum family who was gunned down by motorcycle-riding assassins in the southern Philippine city of Davao. The death was among hundreds in the large port city blamed on an anti-crime purge some believed was secretly run by its mayor, Rodrigo Duterte.

AP

In this Wednesday, May 11, 2016 photo, residents walk past giant tarpaulins of presumptive President-elect Rodrigo Duterte at his hometown in Davao city, southern Philippines.

Memories of that violence flashed back in the Roman Catholic priest's mind when the tough-talking mayor triumphed in last week's presidential election on a pledge to replicate his Davao crime-busting style in the rest of the Philippines.

"I felt sad and depressed," Picardal said of Duterte's rise.

A Duterte presidency is "very frightening," he said in an interview, adding that human rights groups will need to keep a close watch and document any violations, especially extrajudicial killings, in the next six years under Duterte's presidency.

From his 22 years as mayor to the presidential campaign trail, Duterte has never minced words about his deadly objective for criminals. But he has generally denied the existence of death squads in his city.

However, investigations by the Commission on Human Rights in the Philippines, a senior U.N. official, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and a group led by Picardal that opposed summary executions have concluded otherwise.

Clarita Alia, a vegetable vendor and the mother of the young man that Picardal helped bury in Davao in 2007, said she is willing to testify if a case against Duterte goes to court. Three other sons of hers who were suspected of crimes she said they did not commit were also killed by motorcycle-riding hitmen.

## Mexican president proposes legalizing gay marriage

**MEXICO CITY** (AP)—President Enrique Pena Nieto proposed to legalize same-sex marriage in Mexico on Tuesday, a move that would enshrine on a national level a Supreme Court ruling last year that it was unconstitutional for states to bar such couples from wedding.

If it is approved, Mexico would become the fifth country in Latin America to make same-sex marriage legal. The announcement was hailed by LGBT activists and criticized by church officials in Mexico, which is home to the second-largest Roman Catholic population on the planet.

Speaking at an event on the International Day Against Homophobia, Pena Nieto said he signed initiatives that would seek to amend the constitution and the national civil code.

Pena Nieto said he wants to change Article 4 of the constitution to clearly reflect the Supreme Court opinion "to recognize as a human right that people can enter into marriage without any kind of discrimination."

"That is, for marriages to be carried out without discrimination on the basis of ethnicity or nationality, of disabilities, of social or health conditions, of religion, of gender or sexual preference," he added.

Pena Nieto's Twitter page and other government Twitter accounts were changed to include the rainbow colors as he made the announcement.

A two-thirds majority vote in congress is required to amend the constitution. Pena Nieto's party and allies control about half the seats in both houses, and the measure could also pick up support from the leftist opposition Democratic Revolution Party.

It would then need to be ratified by a simple majority of states before going to the president for his signature.

The Rev. Hugo Valdemar, spokesman for the Catholic Archdiocese of Mexico City, urged lawmakers to listen to their "conscience" and oppose the initiative.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### South Korean military seeks to end service exemptions

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—South Korea's Defense Ministry said Tuesday that it's pushing to end most of the existing military service exemptions for men by 2023 to cope with an expected shortage in manpower. The plan to phase out the exemptions beginning in 2020 would require support from other ministries and state agencies to be carried out, said a Defense Ministry official, who didn't want to be named, citing office rules. South Korea requires able-bodied men to finish two years of military service to maintain a strong force in face of threats from rival North Korea.

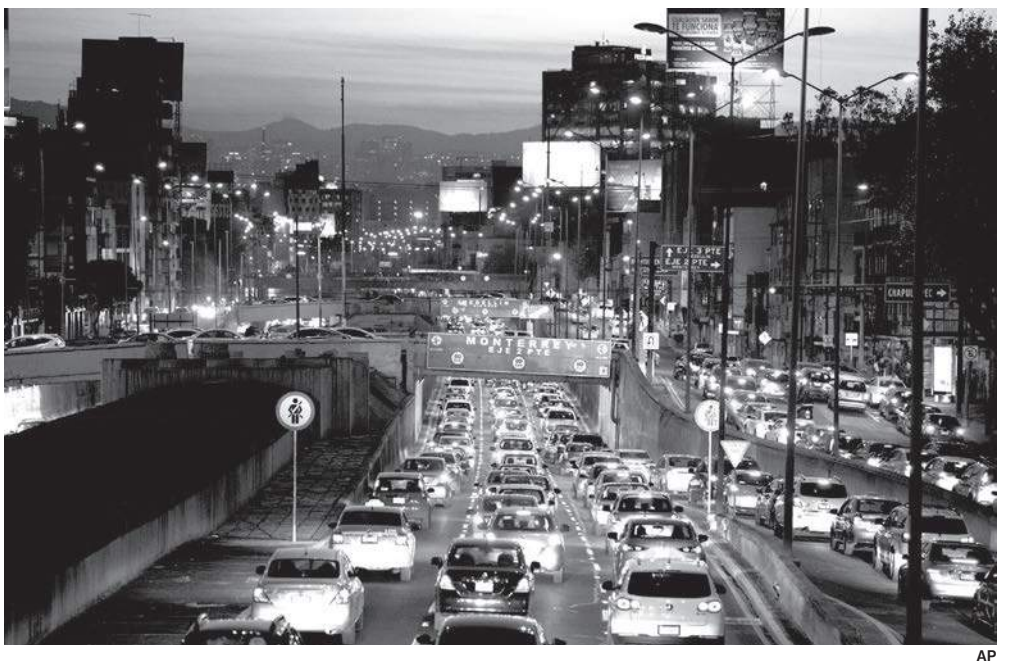
### Sri Lanka flooding death toll rises to 27; more rain to come

**COLOMBO, Sri Lanka** (AP)—Rescue workers recovered 16 bodies buried in mudslides caused by heavy rains in central Sri Lanka, raising the death toll due to bad weather to 27, government officials said Wednesday. Rescue work was continuing as more rain was forecast. Military spokesman Brig. Jayanath Jayaweera said the 16 victims had lived in houses buried by the mudslides that occurred Tuesday evening. The two villages affected are in the Kegalle district, about 72 kilometers (45 miles) from the capital, Colombo. More than 300 soldiers were deployed for the rescue mission and they rescued 150 people trapped in Aranayake village and recovered 13 bodies from the area, Jayaweera said.

# Environment

## Once declared a model for fighting air pollution, Mexico City again chokes

By PATRICK J. MCDONNELL
LOS ANGELES TIMES



AP

In this March 30, 2016 file photo, cars sit in evening rush hour traffic in Mexico City. Mexican authorities issued a new smog alert Saturday, May 14, 2016, for the capital after ozone levels rose above 150 percent of acceptable limits.

**MEXICO CITY**—As the evening thunder turned to rainfall last week, residents savored the cooling and cleansing effects of long-awaited spring showers.

For more than a month, Mexico's capital had been in the grip of a prolonged stretch of unseasonable heat, sparse winds and some of the worst air pollution the city has seen in more than a decade.

The photochemical cloud hovering over the city of 20 million-plus residents forced schoolchildren to eat their lunches indoors and authorities to implement strict traffic reductions that further strained an overtaxed public transportion network.

Mexico City has long been identified with some of the planet's vilest air pollution, a noxious, sun-irradiated fusion of vehicular and industrial fumes trapped in the high-altitude valley where the urban expanse sits. Thermal inversions linked to meteorological conditions in the dry months have threatened residents' health.

In the 1980s, the foul air contributed to elevated mortality among humans. The United Nations called Mexico City the world's most polluted city in 1992.

But all that had changed — or so it appeared. After the late 1990s, government action — including strict controls on emissions and limits on vehicular traffic — produced a stunning turnaround. The city achieved substantially reduced levels of lead and other toxic components in the air, and a rise in the number of days when strollers downtown could catch a glimpse of the snow-capped volcanoes of Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl.

The international air pollution focus gradually shifted to such unfortunate capitals as Beijing, New Delhi and Tehran. Many experts said Mexico City was a model for other developing nations coping with toxic atmospheres.

But improvement has stalled. In mid-March, authorities declared the first air pollution warning since 2005 and declared an environmental emergency. The pressing culprit was ozone, a key component of smog, but officials also cited high readings of other toxic substances.

The crisis culminated this month, when authorities took the extreme step of banning about 40 percent of the more 5 million vehicles that daily transit the city and suburbs, forcing many residents onto public transit and creating tortuous commutes. People spoke of trips to work that normally took an hour turning into two- and even three-hour commutes.

Many young people had never confronted full-blast Mexico City smog. Some had consigned the experience to a distant past.

Environmentalists and other critics complain that after the early improvements in pollution, authorities failed to follow up decisively on further regulation of vehicular and industrial emissions, improvements to public transport and controls on chaotic urban expansion.

In a recent report, the National Autonomous University of Mexico's Center for Sciences of the Atmosphere cited "the decisions affecting the disorderly growth of the city, the lack of investment and planning in public transport, among other factors."

Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto conceded that things had gone amiss.

"Lamentably, the quality of air in the metropolitan zone, particularly in the Valley of Mexico, has been deteriorating notably in recent months (and) in recent years," he said at a public forum in March, referring to the vast area that includes Mexico City and environs.

The president called on federal, state and municipal authorities to adopt bold new measures. There have been new official pledges to tighten emissions controls and get 1.7 million more pollution-belching vehicles off the streets, in part by detecting cheaters who manage to beat the system.


IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

# †Joseph Reyes Dela Cruz

***Lovingly known as Joseph Cruz, Jose Potu or Jose Bibingka***

**November 11, 1955 - May 12, 2016**

***In his new life he now joins his:***

**Son:** †Jerome K. Cruz
**Father:** †Alfonso Torres Dela Cruz (Fungo)
**Sisters:** †Maria Rosario Reyes Dela Cruz
†Emilia Dela Cruz
**Niece:** †Maria Reyes Dela Cruz
**Paternal Grandparents:** †Manuel Concepcion Dela Cruz
†Isabel Salas Torres Dela Cruz
**Maternal Grandparents:** †Jose Coloma Reyes
†Maria Cabrera Reyes
**Mother/Father In Law:** †Herminia Kamantigue
†Eleseo Kamantigue
**Brother/Sister In law:** †Richard Wilson
†Corazon Kamantigue
†Patricio Jarin
†Manolito Kamantigue

***His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:***

**Wife:** **Editha K. Cruz**

**Mother:** **Maria Cabrera Reyes Dela Cruz (Julio)**

**Children and Grandchildren:**
**Jerrick K. Cruz /** Marlena M. Litulumar
Jerrick G. Cruz, Jr.
Sarah Kyla G. Cruz
Michael L. Camacho
Meagan L. Camacho
**Joseph Jr.** K. and Francine Cruz
Francisco Joseph C. Cruz (Kiku Boy)
Joseph Jr. K. Cruz, II
Jerome Jose C. Cruz
**Julio K. Cruz**

**Brothers, Sisters, Spouses, Children and Grandchildren:**
Joaquin R. and Carmen Dela Cruz, Children and Grandchildren
Theresa Reyes Cruz, Children and Grandchildren
Diana Cruz and Thomas Fejeran, Children and Grandchildren
Elizabeth Dela Cruz and Florizel Panlilio, Children and Grandchildren
Helen Wilson, Children and Grandchildren
Angelica Dela Cruz and Cerefino Balisalisa, Children and Grandchildren
Alfonzo Dela Cruz and Vanessa Arriola, Children and Grandchildren
Edwin Reyes Dela Cruz (Edwin M. Dela Cruz, Jr.)
Laureen Dela Cruz and Edwin F. Atalig, Children and Grandchildren

**Brothers In-Law, Sisters In-Law, Spouses, Children and Grandchildren:**
Rodolfo and Olivia Kamantigue, Children and Grandchildren
Eduardo Kamantigue, Children and Grandchildren
Mirriam Kamantigue, Children and Grandchildren
Belen Kamantigue, Children and Grandchildren
Loida Guevarra
Felixberto and Auie Kamantigue, Children and Grandchildren
Arlene Kamantigue and Children

Daily Mass of Intention for the repose of his soul is being celebrated at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral every morning at 6:00. Holy Rosary is being prayed nightly at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:00 pm.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, May 20, 2016. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel to Our lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30am. Responso Service and the Holy Rosary will take place upon his arrival.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am, followed by Interment Services at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery, where he will be laid to peaceful rest.

Please Join us in prayers.
Thank you – Si Yu'us Ma'ase

***He will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunties, nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.***

***Editha K. Cruz, Children and Families***

# Life & Style

## Woman sues Cosby, Hefner, claiming abuse at Playboy Mansion

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—A former model who claims Bill Cosby sexually abused her at the Playboy Mansion in 2008 has filed a lawsuit against the comedian and Playboy founder Hugh Hefner.

The suit filed Monday in Los Angeles by Chloe Goins contends Hefner knew or should have known that Cosby had drugged and sexually abused women and enabled his behavior.

Goins, 26, claims Cosby spiked her drink when she attended a party at the Playboy Mansion sometime in 2008 and then abused her in a bedroom.

Goins' suit says she doesn't know the exact date of the incident. As a result, it's unclear if she was a minor at the time.

The lawsuit says Goins does not remember specifics of the abuse and states that she awoke in a bedroom of the Playboy Mansion with the comedian licking her toes and then pulling up his pants before leaving the room.

She did not immediately contact police because a friend advised against it, the suit states.

Her attorney, Spencer Kuvin, said Tuesday that he hopes to discover the exact date of the abuse now that Hefner is a defendant. The case was filed on Monday, when Goins was 25, to avoid missing a statute of limitations deadline, he said.

AP

In this Oct. 28, 2011 file photo, Hugh Hefner arrives at the premiere of "The Rum Diary" in Los Angeles.

Kuvin said Goins is not currently working and is in a safe place with her family.

Prosecutors rejected filing a criminal case over her claims, in part because they couldn't corroborate her account and because that statute of limitations had expired.

Her suit claims Hefner knew, or should have known, that Cosby "over the years had a propensity for intoxicating or drugging young women and taking advantage of them sexually and against their will or while they were unconscious."

Messages left with Playboy spokeswoman Theresa Hennessey seeking comment from Hefner weren't immediately returned Tuesday.

A message sent to Cosby's attorney, Monique Pressley, hasn't been returned.

Cosby is being sued by Goins for battery, gender violence and intentional infliction of emotional distress. Hefner is accused of negligent infliction of emotional distress and conspiracy to commit sexual battery.

Goins previously sued Cosby in federal court in Los Angeles in October then withdrew the case in February before the comedian responded to her allegations.

Kuvin said the case was withdrawn so Hefner could be added as a defendant. The case was refiled in state court.

In the initial suit, Goins accused Cosby of abusing her when she was underage.

The Associated Press typically does not name people who say they were sexually abused, but Goins has spoken publicly about her allegations and used her name in the two civil cases she has filed.

Cosby has been charged in Pennsylvania with sexually assaulting a former Temple University employee in 2004.

The case is on appeal while Cosby's lawyers argue their contention that the comedian cannot be prosecuted because he had an immunity deal with a former Montgomery County prosecution official.

Cosby is also being sued by a woman who accuses the comedian of molesting her at the Playboy Mansion around 1974 when she was 15. Her attorneys have said they want to depose Hefner in that case.

## De Niro is back in the boxing ring, but the gloves are off

**CANNES, France** (AP)—The gloves have finally come off Robert De Niro.

The great heavyweight of the boxing film has at last moved to the trainer's corner, that sweat-drenched home of grizzled veteran actors and manly pep talks. In "Hands of Stone," Jonathan Jakubowicz's biopic of the lightweight champion Roberto Duran, De Niro plays the famed trainer Ray Arcel. Edgar Ramirez, the "Carlos" and "Point Break" star, plays the Panamanian fighter in the film.

Sitting on a rooftop in Cannes shortly after "Hands of Stone" debuted at the French Riviera film festival, De Niro said he was happy to leave the rigors of playing a boxer to the 39-year-old Ramirez.

"I saw him working so hard and so disciplined. I was glad it wasn't me," said De Niro, letting out a belly laugh and patting Ramirez on the back. "Great job!"

Ramirez, who trained extensively for the part, shook his head. "He was hitting the best restaurants in Panama whenever we had a day off. I just stayed in my apartment."

"Hands of Stone," which the Weinstein Co. plans to release later this year, arrives more than 35 years after De Niro famously played boxer Jake LaMotta in "Raging Bull," a movie that De Niro pushed for a then-struggling Martin Scorsese to direct. The film remains the belt-holder of boxing films, revered for its monochromic cinematography and dark, disturbed mystery.

De Niro met Arcel, the trainer of 18 world champions, while making "Raging Bull."

"I got a sense that he had a real elegance and an aura about him that's not typical of trainers I've met," said De Niro.

"Hands of Stone," a rags-to-riches tale with the rivalry between Duran and Sugar Ray Leonard (a fleet-of-foot Usher) thrown in, is a more meat-and-potatoes boxing drama, with the benefit of local Panama atmosphere (it was partly shot there.) Variety said it "punches ahead in a conventional, aggressive, no-frills way."

"I didn't have to do it, I just wanted to do it," said De Niro. "I wanted to make sure that they went in the right direction."

De Niro, 72, might have been expected to leave the boxing ring long ago, but he returned to it in the 2013 comedy "Grudge Match." He and Sylvester Stallone played aged rivals coaxed back into a fight.

AP

Former boxer Roberto Duran, from left, and actors Robert De Niro and Edgar Ramirez pose for photographers during a photo call for "Hands of Stone" at the 69th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Monday, May 16, 2016.

## Univision teams with Netflix for 'El Chapo' drama series

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Univision's parent company is teaming up with Netflix to produce "El Chapo," a drama series based on the life of one of the world's most notorious criminals. It will air on Univision sister network UniMas in 2017, after which it will be available to Netflix subscribers.

The announcement, part of an agreement between Netflix and Univision Communications Inc., was made Tuesday to advertisers during Univision's presentation of its 2016-17 plans for its suite of networks.

New series for the Univision network include:

■ "Mujeres de Negro" (Women in Black), a drama about a group of women who hatch a scheme to take control of their lives by killing their husbands, then seeking out new adventures freed from marital bonds.

■ "Tres Veces Ana" (The Three Sides of Ana), a drama starring Angelique Boyer playing triplets with very different personalities and three distinct love stories.

■ "Vino el Amor" (Then Love Arrived), a telenovela, set in Napa Valley, California, that traces the life of Mexican-Americans seeking not only the American Dream but also success with family and love.

■ "40 y 20," a comedy about a divorced 40-year-old dad and his 20-year-old son who live together like bachelors.

■ "Super X's," a comedy about two pals, both of whom are slackers—until one of them mysteriously gains supernatural powers.

Univision also said it will partner with Netflix to bring the streaming-video outlet's "Narcos" to broadcast television.

The first season of this acclaimed Netflix series will air on the Univision network, the company announced. In addition, the Netflix series "Club de Cuervos" will air on UniMas.

It will be the first time original Netflix series have aired on broadcast networks in the U.S., Univision said. No airdates were announced, but scheduling will be timed to the premiere of both series' second seasons exclusively on Netflix.

AP

In this Jan. 8, 2016 file photo, Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman is escorted by army soldiers to a waiting helicopter, at a federal hangar in Mexico City, after he was recaptured from breaking out of a maximum security prison in Mexico.

"Narcos" chronicles real-life stories of Colombian drug kingpins of the late 1980s—most notably Pablo Escobar—and the efforts by law enforcement to rein them in.

"Club de Cuervos," which also debuted on Netflix last August, takes an inside look at a family's internal squabble to determine who will control a beloved professional soccer team.

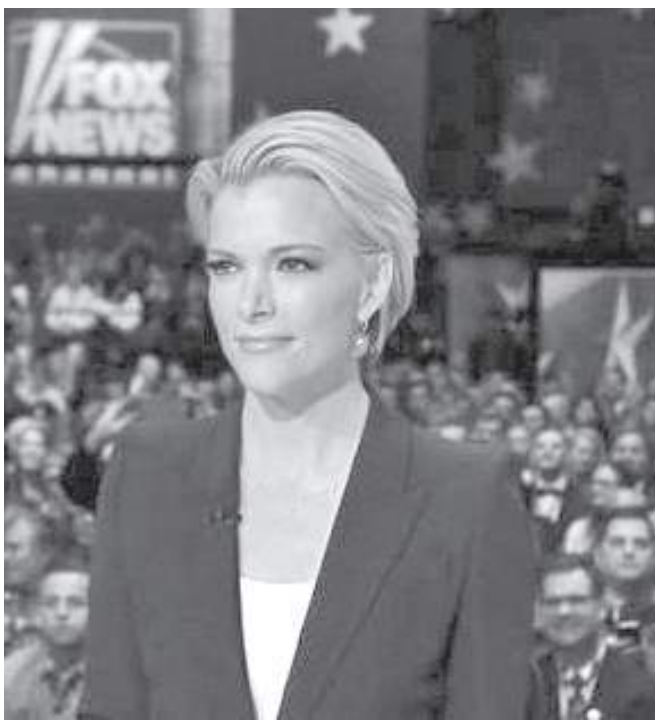
Earlier this week, rival Spanish-language network Telemundo announced its own series to be based on drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, who was arrested in January after almost six months on the run following his escape from a Mexican maximum-security prison through a mile-long tunnel that opened to the floor of his shower.

# Trump and frequent target Megyn Kelly call a truce

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Donald Trump and Megyn Kelly appear to have called a truce.

The two sat down for a much-ballyhooed interview that was the culmination—at least for now—of the frequent sparring between the now-presumptive Republican presidential nominee and one of the biggest stars on the conservative-leaning Fox News Channel. It was taped last month and aired Tuesday night on the Fox broadcast network.

Their fight began last August, in the first GOP debate, when Kelly lobbed several tough questions at Trump, including one about how he has publicly talked about women. Trump escalated the feud over Twitter for months.




AP

In this Jan. 28, 2016 photo, Moderator Megyn Kelly waits for the start of the Republican presidential primary debate in Des Moines, Iowa. Donald Trump says people who are bullied gotta get over it and fight back.

But the brash celebrity businessman appeared somewhat sheepish in the interview when Kelly asked him about some of the insults he tweeted—or retweeted—her way, frequently including "bimbo."

"Uh, that was a retweet. Did I say that?" Trump asked.

"Many times," Kelly responded.

"Ooooh. OK," said Trump, who insisted that he didn't want his followers bombarding Kelly with ugly social media posts.

Kelly made a clandestine visit to the Trump Tower in April to negotiate the interview.

Trump praised her for that, saying he had "great respect" for Kelly's willingness to make the initial approach. He also turned, at times, somewhat introspective, saying "he could have done without" his retweet of a post that mocked the appearance of Heidi Cruz, the wife of former rival Ted Cruz.

"The thing that gets me in trouble is the retweet," Trump said. "The retweet is really more of a killer than a tweet. I seem to do pretty well with the real tweet."

But he largely defended his attacks as counter-punching and "not bullying."

"When I'm wounded, I go after people hard. I try to unwound myself," said Trump.

"I'm responding," he added. "Now, I then respond times 10, I don't know. I then respond pretty strongly."

At the conclusion of the interview, Trump tweeted "Well done Megyn—and they all lived happily ever after!" But he told Kelly sometimes stayed angry and appeared to hint that their feud could reignite someday.

"This could happen again with us," he said.

# Lily-Rose Depp and Soko dance into Cannes with 'The Dancer'

**CANNES, France** (AP)—Lily-Rose Depp and Stephanie "Soko" Sokolinski have a turbulent relationship in their new film "The Dancer," but off camera, the two actresses are friends enjoying the Cannes Film Festival. Sokolinski even helped get Depp the job.

The actresses both play dancers in the feature debut by writer-director Stephanie Di Giusto, which screened at the Cannes festival this week.

"It's her first film and being able to present it here, I'm almost more happy for her," Sokolinski said of her 16-year-old co-star. "I'm like, 'Oh my god, I'm so proud of you,' and she's like, 'I'm proud of you too,' and I'm like, 'No, but I'm proud of you, it's your first film, you're in Cannes, it's amazing.'"

"We're so proud of our director because we know how hard she worked on it," added Depp, daughter of Johnny Depp and Vanessa Paradis. "She's been researching and working on this for five years before we even started shooting."

"The Dancer" tells the story of American dance innovator Loie Fuller (Sokolinski), who found fame dancing at Paris' Folies Bergere in the late 1800s, and the sacrifices she made for her art. Depp plays American dancer Isadora Duncan, a manipulative young performer who seduces the older dancer for her own gains.

AP

In this Friday, May 13, 2016 file photo, actresses Soko, left and Lily-Rose Depp pose for photographers upon arrival at the screening of the film I, Daniel Blake at the 69th international film festival, Cannes, southern France.

# Police say Sinead O'Connor was found at hotel

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Suburban Chicago police say they found Irish singer-songwriter Sinead O'Connor after she went missing earlier this week staying at a hotel.

Wilmette police spokesman Eric Peterson said Tuesday that 10 departments helped canvass area hotels. He said finding O'Connor safe Monday afternoon was "a wonderful outcome."

He declined to provide other details, including about where exactly O'Connor was found, her condition or where she is now.

A rambling message posted Monday evening on O'Connor's official Facebook page referred to emotional trauma she had been through over the years.

O'Connor scored an international hit in 1990 with her rendition of Prince's ballad "Nothing Compares 2 U."

# Video game Tetris to become a China-US co-produced movie

**BEIJING** (AP)—Chinese and U.S. producers say they plan to make an $80 million live-action sci-fi thriller based on the popular 1980s building block computer game Tetris.

The movie will begin shooting next year. It is the first project from the newly formed Threshold Global Studios, a joint venture between Chinese entertainment investor Bruno Wu's Seven Star Works and producer Larry Kasanoff's California-based Threshold Entertainment Group.

The pair said in a statement Tuesday that the joint venture "will make cross-cultural movies for the global market." Kasanoff added that the 32-year-old video game Tetris "is a perfect first project for this strategy."

The announcement said financing for the co-production is complete. There are plans to film the movie in China and it will feature Chinese actors.

# Wife dances the night away while husband stews at home

DEAR ABBY: My wife of 15 years has recently begun spending a lot of time with a group of women who socialize away from their husbands. They like to meet without their husbands and party at pick-up nightclubs and swingers' bars. When I asked her about it, her response was, "It's just us girls dancing with each other and having a good time. We dance with each other at the table we're at. We never dance with any of the men who ask us." When I asked why they go to these kinds of places, she said the atmosphere and music are better there.

Abby, I object to this type of partying. We married to be together. She's now accusing me of being jealous and possessive. Am I wrong to want her to stop? I think what she's doing is dangerous.

PLEASE STOP IN ARIZONA

**DEAR PLEASE STOP: No, you're not wrong. Your wife partying regularly at swingers' bars and pick-up joints IS a threat to your marriage. If the shoe were on the other foot and you were the one out drinking and dancing while she sat at home, she'd probably feel the same way you're feeling now, unless you had both agreed on an open relationship.**

**Spouses who treat each other without consideration for the other's feelings usually wind up divorced, so while there is time to save your marriage, some sessions with a marriage counselor would be a good investment.**

**DEAR ABBY:** My mom died of cancer last year at the young age of 63. (I am 30.) Not one member of my husband's mother's family (other than my MIL and FIL, whom we live with) acknowledged her death in any way. There were no phone calls, no sympathy cards, no "I'm sorry for your loss," NOTHING. My family and I were extremely hurt by their behavior. We feel that some sort of apology or explanation is in order.

Some members of my mother-in-law's family are now nearing death themselves, and I know I will be expected to go along with my husband, in-laws and their extended family to the various services "out of respect." The problem is, my respect for them no longer exists. Any advice?

DISRESPECTED ON THE EAST COAST

**DEAR DISRESPECTED: Yes. If you prefer not to attend, stay home. And if you are asked why you didn't show up, tell them the reason.**

**DEAR ABBY:** A family with young children just moved into the house across the street. They seem like nice people, but one thing concerns me.

Day and night, their 6-year-old son rides his bike all over the street unsupervised, and darts across without looking. Most of the residents on our street drive carefully, but every so often a strange car or two will barrel through. I'm worried that the boy will get hit one of these days.

Should someone go to the parents and tell them their child isn't safe? Or is it nobody's business to scold people on how to raise their children?

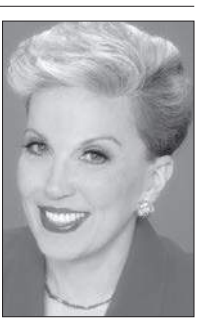
CONCERNED NEIGHBOR

**DEAR CONCERNED NEIGHBOR: Go there not to scold but to welcome your new neighbors. And while you're there, warn the parents that some drivers ignore the speed limit while driving down that street, so it's important they stress to their boy the importance of looking both ways when he's on his bike.**

*To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.*

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

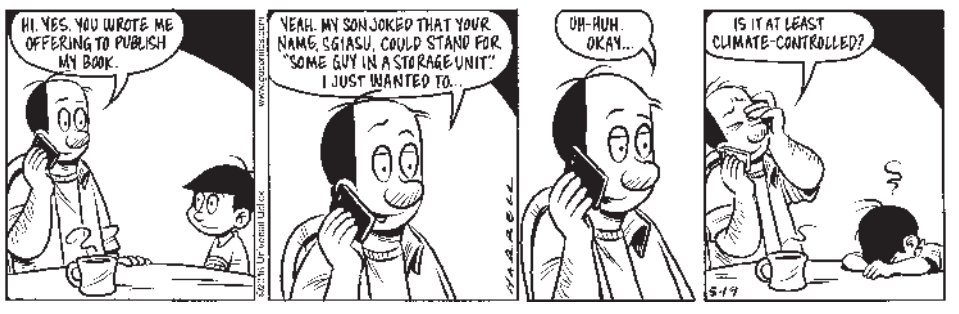
GRAB THE HOTDOGS AND COME ON!
THE TROOP'S COOKING DINNER OVER THE FIRE.
OH THAT'S JUST GREAT.
HERE WE'VE BEEN LUGGING THIS DUMB MICROWAVE AROUND FOR NOTHING.

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


HI. YES. YOU WROTE ME OFFERING TO PUBLISH MY BOOK.
YEAH. MY SON JOKED THAT YOUR NAME, SGIASU, COULD STAND FOR "SOME GUY IN A STORAGE UNIT". I JUST WANTED TO...
UH-HUH. OKAY...
IS IT AT LEAST CLIMATE-CONTROLLED?

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

HELLO. IF THIS IS EKO CAMINO, I MOVED TO SIBERIA, CAUGHT THE PLAGUE, GOT HIT BY A BUS, AND DIED.
EVERYONE ELSE, LEAVE ME A MESSAGE AT THE BEEP...

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**

1 Body powder
5 Booty
9 CIA operative
12 Winged
13 Bryant of the NBA
14 Shell game item
15 "Yummy!"
17 Slithery fish
18 Rapscallions
19 Bolivian city
21 Dad
22 Garlicky mayo
24 Pen pals?
27 Spinning abbr.
28 Frog's kin
31 Tall tree
32 Mode lead-in
33 Ornate vase
34 "Arrivederci!"
36 Silent
37 "The Thin Man" dog
38 Spassky's game
40 Alien, for short
41 Plot surprise
43 Diva Streisand
47 Kanga's kid
48 Very funny
51 Debtor's letters
52 Grand tale
53 Squad
54 Rx writers
55 Portnoy's creator
56 Stereo alternative

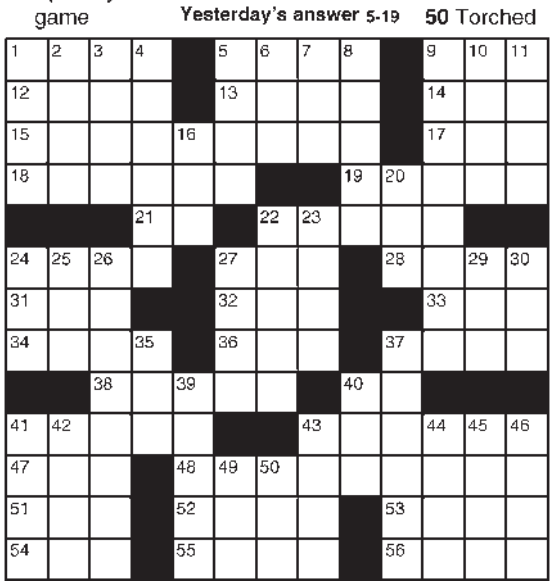
**DOWN**

1 Tiny amounts
2 Actor Guinness
3 In — land
4 Pinches, as pie crust
5 Aspen gear
6 Romance
7 — Dhabi
8 Bas-relief medium
9 Misleading
10 Equal
11 Harvard rival
16 Tax prep pro
20 Last (Abbr.)
22 Top grade
23 Mosque VIP
24 USMC rank
25 Three, on a sundial
26 Kind and courteous
27 Runs (into)
29 Curator's focus
30 "CSI" evidence
35 Surprised cries
37 Central courtyard
39 Bygone anesthetic
40 Corn spike
41 Decorate
42 Fireplace fuel
43 "Brandenburg Concertos" composer
44 U2 lead singer
45 Wreck
46 Regarding
49 Wall St. debut
50 Torched

Solution time: 24 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | A | T | A | | I | F | S | | I | R | I | S |
| E | G | A | D | | H | E | H | | M | U | S | T |
| B | J | L | - | D | O | Z | E | | P | L | E | A |
| - | A | K | E | U | P | | B | A | - | L | E | T |
| | | | R | O | E | | A | S | I | F | | |
| M | A | R | | S | S | N | | A | F | R | I | F |
| A | L | U | M | | O | R | C | | D | O | W | N |
| | S | L | A | M | | A | O | K | | G | O | D |
| | | L | I | M | O | | B | E | G | | | |
| M | A | H | - | E | R | | B | E | - | I | Z | E |
| B | L | O | B | | B | U | L | L | E | T | I | N |
| A | G | R | A | | I | K | E | | A | S | T | I |
| S | A | N | G | | T | E | D | | M | A | I | D |

Yesterday's answer 5-19



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Dario Franchitti, 43; Polly Walker, 50; Grace Jones, 68; Pete Townshend, 71.

**Happy Birthday**: Step outside your comfort zone and try something you've never done before. The experience will exhilarate you as well as help you make personal changes that will improve your image, appearance and your relationships with friends, relatives and someone you love. Children will play an important role in your life. Listen to the insight of innocence. Your numbers are 8, 12, 19, 28, 36, 42, 47.

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): When it comes to your work or reputation, don't let your impulses take over. Plan your actions strategically and make sure you have all your facts straight and your finances in order. Change is welcome if carried out responsibly. ✪✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Enjoy every moment. Let your imagination wander. Look at your options and consider lifestyles that will make your life peaceful. Make wise choices, and make your happiness a priority. You are the master of your destiny. ✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Take advantage of any offer that comes your way. Sitting on the sidelines will not help you get ahead. Research any competition you face. Don't share personal information with others. An empty promise will lead you astray. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): An opportunity to expand one of your interests or to turn something you enjoy doing into a profitable business looks inviting. Discuss your plans with someone who might be able to contribute, and you will receive support. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): A change of plans will work in your favor. Show dedication and put some muscle behind whatever you want to achieve, and you will surpass anyone who is trying to disrupt your plans. A business venture is likely to be a disappointment. ✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Set up appointments, attend conferences or travel if it will help you discover a better way to use your skills, time or money. Partnerships will play an important role in the way you move forward. A healthier lifestyle will improve your stamina. ✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't let what others do anger you. Step away from the people who cause you grief, and make it a priority to take better care of yourself mentally, emotionally and physically. Positive changes will result in a better future. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't let uncertainty cloud your vision when it comes to work-related matters. If you let your emotions take over, you run the risk of making an impulsive move. Discuss your thoughts with someone who has always been there for you. ✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't be surprised if someone speaks out against you or spreads information that you were trying to keep secret. Make your positions clear to avoid misunderstandings. A change may be inevitable, but will be beneficial in the end. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Discuss any matters of concern with people who will be affected by your decisions. Once you explain the benefits that will result from the changes you want to make, you will get the support you need. ✪✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Even if you have a brilliant moneymaking plan, you might have a difficult time getting others to share your enthusiasm. Gather and present information before you get others involved. Uncertainty and insecurity will cause relationship problems. ✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Get your thoughts on paper and negotiate your position. Something you've wanted to do for a long time will become achievable. Share your victory with someone you want to work with, or celebrate with someone you love. ✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are imaginative, strong-willed and outgoing. You are intense and secretive.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

# SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | | 3 | | 9 | | | |
| | | | 6 | 8 | | 2 | | 7 |
| | 4 | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | 8 | 2 |
| | 5 | | | | | | 3 | |
| 2 | 8 | | | | | | | 6 |
| | | | | | | | 9 | |
| 9 | | 7 | | 3 | 4 | | | |
| | | | 2 | | 7 | | 5 | |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| 4 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 7 |
| 6 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 9 |
| 3 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| 1 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 3 |
| 2 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 1 |
| 9 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 6 |
| 7 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 8 |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/18

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ETHIOPIAN COFFEE — Solution: 8 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | H | R | Y | P | A | P | E | P | P | E | R | Y | M | S |
| T | Y | A | O | T | E | R | B | R | E | W | T | A | P | I |
| O | N | M | R | V | E | E | A | O | P | I | H | I | E | L |
| O | A | A | O | R | A | V | D | B | U | S | C | S | V | K |
| M | T | R | L | N | A | L | L | R | I | E | I | U | I | Y |
| S | U | O | S | P | O | R | F | E | F | C | W | R | T | G |
| H | R | M | U | D | E | C | G | Ⓕ | V | N | A | T | C | R |
| O | A | A | N | V | R | N | E | P | Ⓤ | T | S | I | N | O |
| R | L | E | E | E | I | H | E | S | U | Ⓛ | H | C | I | W |
| T | L | N | A | T | C | A | E | X | P | L | Ⓛ | N | T | N |
| B | U | M | S | A | B | S | M | A | P | R | P | I | S | I |
| E | A | A | G | E | I | N | E | B | V | O | E | K | I | G |
| R | O | R | R | O | B | U | S | T | E | Y | R | S | D | I |
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**Job Vacancy Announcement**

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**Position Summary:** Responsible for ensuring the smooth operation of the guest services desk on a designated shift. Ensure full support is given to visiting junkets, premium players and VIP's visiting the e-gaming/digital lounge. Assist in obtaining player information to develop and maintain a comprehensive player database. Assist in the preparation of departmental reports. And other duties as assign.

**Position Requirement:** High School graduate, GED or equivalent plus 3 years successful work experience as a guest services officer in a casino, slots or gaming club or lounge or any equivalent combination of experience, education and/or training where guests services skills are demonstrated. Able to communicate clearly and possess a good command of verbal and written English and Chinese Mandarin. Excellent Public Speaking and communication skills. Must be computer literate with effective negotiating and problem solving skills.

**Compensation:** This position will be filled and paid at a rate commensurate with qualifications, work experience and ability to perform.

**Job Location:** Kanoa Resort, Susupe Beach Road, Saipan

**Application:** Interested qualified applicant may pick up an Employment Application form at our HR Department from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00am to 5:00pm. No phone calls. Employment Application form must be accompanied with a resume, valid ID and certificates to support the application form. Deadline for submission of completed applications is June 01, 2016 at 5:00pm. Applicant must be eligible to work in the United States.

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FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

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**(1) Accounts Receivable Accountant**
- Previous hotel-related experience preferred, progressive experience in revenue and accounts receivable operations. Strong personal computer skills essential.
- College graduate, Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration major in accountancy preferable or 2 years experience within the field.

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- Previous hotel-related experience preferred; progressive experience in accounts payable operations and payroll processing. Strong personal computer skills essential.
- College graduate, Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, major in accountancy preferable or 2 years experience within the field.

Interested applicants may obtain and submit application form from our security office located at the South Wing. To be considered, all applications must be submitted no later than May 26, 2016. Background check and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

**Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

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**All positions close 5:00pm on Friday, May 27, 2016.**
Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume and evidence of education degree(s) and professional licenses claimed. It should also include a valid Police Clearance of no more than 6 months old. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
Wireless Ridge Landscaping is an equal opportunity employer.

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FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
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is inviting qualified U.S. Citizens to apply for the following vacant position

**Tailor (1)**
- Measures, makes or alters uniforms for new employees. Repairs and maintain uniforms for all hotel employees. Organize and take inventory for all fabric materials, perform other duties as may be assigned by immediate superior.
- Must have 2 years tailoring experience. Is able to work well under pressure in a fast pace environment. Must be able to work flexible schedule including holidays.

Interested applicants may obtain and submit application form from our security office located at the South Wing. To be considered, all applications must be submitted no later than May 26, 2016. Background check and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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**Applications may be picked up and submitted at the MARPAC office located in Gualo Rai Village – Deadline of submission is on Wednesday, May 25.**

**NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE.**

As condition of Employment, MARPAC requires proof of identity and eligibility to work in the CNMI.
Police and Court Clearance required.

**MARPAC Dist., Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer**

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**POI Aviation**
invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

**Avionics Technician (2)**
Requires: High School graduate/GED or Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program. FCC license or NCATT certification or an equivalent foreign license. Four (4) years experience in an avionics/electrical career field; or two (2) years of accredited schooling in aviation electronics and two (2) years related experience. Performs various troubleshooting and evaluation of aircraft avionics systems; removal and installation of panels and components; and repair work. Must be skilled in the use of specialized aircraft testing equipment.

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Requires: Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Performs various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. Must be skilled in use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA A&P License or an equivalent foreign license.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than May 23, 2016. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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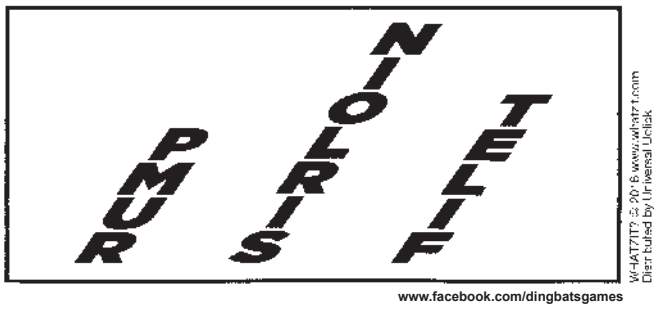


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# Cavaliers stay perfect, blow out Raptors in Game 1

AP
Toronto Raptors' James Johnson (3) defends as Cleveland Cavaliers' Kyrie Irving (2) shoots during the first half of Game 1 of the NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals Tuesday, May 17, 2016, in Cleveland.

**CLEVELAND** (AP)—Still unbeaten, still undeniable.

The Cavaliers are rolling through the East with ease.

LeBron James hardly missed and scored 24 points in three quarters, Kyrie Irving scored 27 and Cleveland picked up where it left off before a long layoff by thumping the Toronto Raptors 115-84 in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals on Tuesday night.

James made his first nine shots—one an arena-rattling powerhouse dunk— and the Cavs, healthy and hungry after losing in the Finals a year ago, shot 67 percent from the field in the first half while improving to 9-0 this postseason. Cleveland is the first team to start the playoffs with nine straight wins since San Antonio reeled off 10 in a row in 2012.

But although the Cavs are more than halfway to winning a title— and ending the city's 52-year championship drought—James isn't satisfied.

"I think don't think we have complacency in our minds," he said. "We have a goal and our goal is not nine wins. I've won nine games before. I've won 14 games before. We will face some adversity."

The 31-point win is the most lopsided in Cleveland's postseason history.

But unlike their second-round series when they made 77 3-pointers and swept Atlanta, the Cavs did most of their damage from close range. Cleveland made just 7 of 20 3-point attempts.

DeMar DeRozan scored 18 points and Bismack Biyombo added 12 for Toronto, which had just one day to prepare for the Cavs after going to seven games with Miami.

"I thought they were the fresher team, the quicker team," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said.

Kyle Lowry, who scored 35 points in the Raptors' series-clinching win over Miami, was held to just eight as he and the Raptors were roughed up in their first appearance in the conference finals.

Unless Toronto figures some things out quickly, these Raptors will be extinct, too.

Game 2 is Thursday night.

Cleveland figured to have some rust following a nine-day break since ousting the Hawks. But not only did the Cavs look refreshed, they looked better than before, taking their game to another level.

And James, as is almost always the case, led the charge. He finished 11 of 13 from the field and added six rebounds and four assists in just 28 minutes. James spent the final quarter on the bench cheering on Cleveland's reserves.

These are the Cavs at full force, not the version missing Love and Irving in last year's Finals.

"They waited a full regular season to get back to this moment," James said of his teammates. "They trained their bodies all season long to get back to this point and those guys have been spectacular."

The Cavs outscored the Raptors 33-16 in the second quarter when James personally welcomed Canada's NBA franchise to the East's final round with a devastating dunk.

Driving baseline past DeMarre Carroll, James cut across the lane and hammered home a right-handed windmill. He celebrated the slam by tilting his head, backpedaling and letting out a primal scream along with 20,000 fans.

The impressive bucket capped a 20-2 spurt for the Cavs, whose swarming defense was making life miserable for Lowry and his teammates. Toronto didn't get its first field goal until 6:28 remained in the quarter. The Raptors regrouped for a moment and closed within 12 before the Cavs decided enough was enough and closed the half with a 12-4 flurry to go up 66-44.

The Raptors came in as overwhelming underdogs, but Casey wasn't worried about the stage being too big or his team fearing the Cavs.

He's still confident his group will bounce back.

"This score is embarrassing," he said. "But it's just one game."

And that might be the scariest thing of all.

## *Warriors take little solace in NBA acknowledging blown call*

**OAKLAND, Calif.** (AP)—The fact that the NBA acknowledged missing a late travel call on Oklahoma City's Russell Westbrook did little to appease Golden State coach Steve Kerr a day later.

When told that NBA senior vice president for replay and referee operations Joe Borgia went on NBA TV after the game and said Westbrook did drag his pivot foot before calling timeout with 17.2 seconds to play and Oklahoma City leading by three, Kerr let out a sarcastic response.

"Yes! Yes!" he said after practice Tuesday. "Yes, that's awesome."

The play happened with the Warriors trailing 105-102 in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals on Monday night and denied them a chance at a potential game-tying 3-pointer.

After the timeout, Westbrook was fouled and made one free throw to make it a two-possession game and the Thunder went on to win 108-102. The NBA also acknowledged in its Last Two Minute Report released Tuesday that officials missed a travel call on Golden State's Stephen Curry after Westbrook's made foul shot. But that had little impact on the game because Curry missed the shot.

Kerr said he would prefer that the NBA not announce when officials blow calls but he understands why the league does it.

"I don't like the practice," he said. "I appreciate the NBA trying to be transparent, but it's unfair to the officials. I feel like it throws them under the bus. They have an impossible job. They really do. And there are going to be bad calls both ways every game. They're never going to be perfect. They're doing the best they can. I don't think there's any point personally in exposing bad calls. It doesn't serve a purpose to me."

At Thunder practice at the University of San Francisco, coach Billy Donovan didn't want to discuss Kerr or the Warriors' late-game frustrations.

"I felt like our guys played through the adversity or the challenges in the game. There were a lot of things, I think, that probably could have gotten our team sideways," Donovan said. "We just kept playing, and that's what you've got to do. They're capable of going on huge runs and you've got to be able to withstand that emotionally to be able to keep your composure and keep your focus and come back on whatever the next play is, offense or defense, with the same level of intensity and enthusiasm."

Meanwhile, the Western Conference finals opener was TNT's highest-rated conference finals Game 1 since 2011.

The network says the game averaged 8.7 million viewers and peaked at 10.6 million, making it the most viewed show on cable on Monday night. The numbers were up 37 percent from the 2014 Western Conference finals, the last time that series was played on TNT.

The "Inside The NBA" postgame show averaged a 2.8 rating, making it the second-most popular cable program of the night.

San Francisco posted the highest local rating at 23.4, followed by Oklahoma City at 21.5.

# 76ers win NBA draft lottery; Lakers stay at No. 2, keep pick

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The Philadelphia 76ers have lost big for three years, when they appeared to value draft picks more than players.

They got a huge victory Tuesday night, and maybe the wins on the court will soon follow.

The 76ers won the NBA draft lottery, giving them the No. 1 selection in June.

"The pain that we've all gone through, the pain of losing is real. You can't camouflage it," said coach Brett Brown, who represented the 76ers on stage. "The city has been incredibly patient, tolerant, choose any word you want. I think this validates some of the pain we went through."

The Los Angeles Lakers finished second but also felt like winners, as they would have dealt their pick to Philadelphia had they fallen out of the top three.

The Boston Celtics, with a pick dealt to them by the Brooklyn Nets, remained in the No. 3 slot.

Nobody moved up in the lottery, which sets the top three picks. The remainder of the 14 teams are slotted in the inverse order of their won-loss record.

The 76ers finished 10-72, just off the worst record in the history of the 82-game schedule, and had a 26.9 percent chance of landing the No. 1 pick (their own 25 percent chance, and Sacramento's 1.9 percent chance, since the 76ers had the right to swap picks with the Kings from a previous trade.)

They would have garnered another top-five selection had the Lakers tumbled a couple of spots, since they would have been entitled to the pick the Lakers originally dealt to Phoenix for Steve Nash that the 76ers later acquired in another trade.

"It's been a long year," Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak said. "Because of the contingencies of the deal, there was a significant chance we would lose the pick. That would have been disappointing. We would have gotten over it and moved on to the summer, but that would have been disappointing."

Philadelphia certainly won't complain, not after doing no better than No. 3 in the previous two drafts during a three-year process where the focus was more on building for the future than trying to win in the present.

"We can now make the decision all by ourselves," said Brown, who is 47-199 in his three seasons. "We don't have to wait and see what someone else does. It gives us the injection we need."

Their win certainly won't quiet those believers in lottery conspiracies, as former 76ers center Dikembe Mutombo—who works for the NBA as a global ambassador—accidentally tweeted congratulations on their victory about four hours earlier. He sent a subsequent tweet saying he was just excited but was keeping his fingers crossed.

"I want to let people know there was no conspiracy," Mutombo told The Associated Press in a phone interview, saying it was a mistake and that he thought "a lot of people understood the error that was made."

# Mets top Nationals, end four-game skid

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Noah Syndergaard brought his 100 mph heat and struck out 10, Curtis Granderson homered on Max Scherzer's first pitch, and the New York Mets beat the Washington Nationals 2-0 Tuesday night to stop a four-game skid.

Daniel Murphy returned to Citi Field with a major league-best .400 batting average and drew two early standing ovations, then got booed. The former Mets postseason star got one of five hits Syndergaard (4-2) gave up in seven innings.

Michael Conforto also homered as the Mets sent the NL East leaders to their third straight loss. Jeurys Familia worked the ninth for his 13th save in as many chances.

Scherzer (4-3) also struck out 10 in his first start since fanning a record-tying 20 against Detroit in his last outing.

Scherzer allowed just three hits in 6 1/3 innings but two of them left the ballpark.

AP

New York Mets shortstop Asdrubal Cabrera (13) throws out Washington Nationals' Wilson Ramos at first base after forcing out Anthony Rendon (6) during the second inning of a baseball game Tuesday, May 17, 2016, in New York.

### Athletics 8, Rangers 5

In Oakland, Khris Davis hit a game-ending grand slam with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning for his third homer of the night, giving Oakland a victory over Texas.

Ian Desmond hit a two-run homer off Ryan Madson (2-0) in the top of the ninth to put Texas ahead 5-4, but Davis and the A's weren't done.

### Dodgers 5, Angels 1

In Los Angeles, Clayton Kershaw improved to 4-0 in May, Joc Pederson hit two solo homers and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Angels in the Freeway Series.

Kershaw (6-1) allowed one run and four hits in eight innings, struck out 11 and walked none. The left-hander retired his final 13 batters in lowering his ERA to 1.67.

Kenley Jansen retired the side in the ninth for his 14th save.

### Giants 5, Padres 1

In San Diego, Madison Bumgarner threw a five-hitter and struck out 11 for his first complete game this season and Brandon Crawford homered and drove in all five runs to lead NL West-leading San Francisco to a victory against San Diego.

Bumgarner (5-2) came within three outs of a shutout before allowing Matt Kemp's homer off the third deck of the Western Metal Supply Co. building in the left field corner, his 10th.

### Astros 6, White Sox 5, 11 innings

In Chicago, Evan Gattis celebrated his return to the majors with a two-run homer in the 11th inning that lifted Houston over Chicago.

Astros rookie Tyler White hit a pair of solo shots for his first multihomer game and capped a three-hit night with a double.

### Diamondbacks 5, Yankees 3

In Phoenix, Zack Greinke pitched effectively into the eighth inning and Arizona clinched its first regular-season series over New York.

Arizona blew out the Yankees 12-2 in the series opener and withstood a late rally Tuesday to win a regular-season series against the Bronx Bombers for the first time in six tries.

### Brewers 4, Cubs 2

In Milwaukee, Chase Anderson took a no-hitter into the eighth inning and finished with 8 2/3 strong innings to lift Milwaukee over Chicago.

The Cubs entered averaging 5.94 runs per game, but Anderson (2-5) stopped them almost cold to snap a personal five-game skid.

### Rockies 3, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Chad Bettis took a shutout into the seventh inning and drove in a run to lead Colorado to a victory.

Nolan Arrenado and Dustin Garneau had RBI singles, and Bettis added a run-scoring grounder as the Rockies got their season-high fifth straight win and won for only the fifth time in 22 games at Busch Stadium since 2010.

### Pirates 12, Braves 9

In Pittsburgh, Gregory Polanco doubled three times and Pittsburgh ruined Brian Snitker's debut as interim manager of Atlanta.

John Jaso, Andrew McCutchen and Francisco Cervelli had three hits each for the Pirates, who led by nine runs early then held on after an extended rally by the Braves.

### Royals 8, Red Sox 4

In Kansas City, Paulo Orlando hit a two-run homer, Eric Hosmer also went deep and Kansas City beat hot-hitting Boston.

Orlando also tripled and had a two-run single. Omar Infante and Alcides Escobar drove in runs as Kansas City continued to slowly break out of its season-long offensive funk.

### Mariners 10, Orioles 0

In Baltimore, Nelson Cruz homered and drove in five runs, Kyle Seager hit a three-run drive and Seattle cruised past Baltimore.

Robinson Cano had three hits, two RBI and scored three runs for the Mariners, who repeatedly circled the bases on a wet, chilly night at Camden Yards.

### Rays 12, Blue Jays 2

In Toronto, Chris Archer pitched six innings to win his third straight decision, Brad Miller had three hits and three RBI and Tampa Bay routed Toronto again.

Logan Morrison had two hits and two RBI for the Rays, who beat Toronto 13-2 on Monday night. Tampa Bay has scored in each of the first three innings in back-to-back games for the first time in team history.

### Indians 13, Reds 1

In Cleveland, Rajai Davis had three hits, drove in three runs and scored four, and Cleveland benefited from four straight bases-loaded walks from reliever Steve Delabar to rout Cincinnati.

Jason Kipnis, Carlos Santana and Mike Napoli each had two RBI, and Francisco Lindor and Lonnie Chisenhall had three hits apiece.

### Phillies 3, Marlins 1

In Philadelphia, Tommy Joseph hit his first major league homer as part of three-hit game to lead Philadelphia.

Six Phillies pitchers combined to strike out 17 Marlins.

### Tigers 7, Twins 2

In Detroit, Ian Kinsler and J.D. Martinez hit consecutive homers during a seven-run seventh inning, and Detroit beat Minnesota as Tigers manager Brad Ausmus served a one-game suspension.

Jose Iglesias hit a tiebreaking two-run single for the Tigers, who have won three straight after losing 11 of their previous 12.

## UN: Zika more worrying but Rio Olympics shouldn't be moved

**GENEVA** (AP)—The World Health Organization's chief says the agency is increasingly concerned about the Zika virus, even though it does not recommend canceling or postponing the Rio de Janeiro Summer Olympics in hard-hit Brazil.

"The more we learn about Zika, the more worried we get about it," Dr. Margaret Chan said in a briefing Tuesday in Geneva, saying she herself would be going to the Rio Games.

Chan noted that although Zika has been around for decades, it is only recently that the virus has been proven to cause severe birth defects and neurological problems -- including in newborn children.

She reiterated the U.N. health agency's advice that pregnant women should not travel to Brazil, which has by far the biggest number of Zika cases.

She said the agency was recommending that both Olympic athletes and travelers to Rio take measures to prevent being bitten by the mosquitoes that spread Zika. Still, she didn't see a reason why the games—which are expected to draw about 500,000 people to Brazi—should be moved.

"You don't want to bring a standstill to the world's movement of people," Chan said. "This is all about risk assessment and risk management."

Asked if she agreed with WHO's Zika response chief Bruce Aylward, who declared earlier this year that Rio will host a "fantastic" Olympic games, Chan said it will be.

"I'm going," she said.

But Chan did not address the Rio Olympics' other big health risk -- the filthy, virus-laden waters that sailors, rowers and some swimmers will have to navigate.

In February, WHO declared the explosive outbreak of Zika to be a global health emergency and the virus has now spread to nearly 60 countries.

The agency is constantly monitoring its evolution, and could change its advice to travelers depending on how Zika progresses, WHO officials say.

Some experts have called for this year's Olympics, which run from Aug. 5-21, to be moved or delayed to prevent the avoidable birth of brain-damaged babies. They also warn that the Rio Olympics could spark new Zika outbreaks in other countries and speed up the virus' international spread.

Chan said Olympic athletes were getting advice from their national medical advisers, singling out Australia as one country that has issued "very positive" guidelines to its Olympic team. Other countries are taking measures such as providing protective clothing, window screens and air conditioning "to minimize the risk," she said.

Australia's medical director for the Olympic team said last week that the risk of Zika to athletes was "minimal" and that the last people he had spoken to who had been to Rio recently hadn't even seen a mosquito. The statement made no mention of the fact that Zika can cause the birth of permanently brain-damaged babies.

Chan was speaking ahead of next week's World Health Assembly, a crucial WHO annual event that draws more than 3,500 delegates and address six dozen topics -- including resistance to antimicrobial drugs, a global shortage of medicines and vaccines and maternal health.

Despite Chan's concern about the Zika outbreak, not a single session at next week's meeting is focused on the virus, even though Zika is expected to come up in a number of discussions at the assembly.

# Governor's Tourism Cup draws 105 golfers

A total of 105 golfers competed in the Inaugural Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament held last Saturday on the east course of Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Participants joined the six flights with the Top 3 finishers in each division receiving prizes. William Retardo won the Championship Flight and was joined by David Largent and Jeff Taylor at the podium. Other Top 3 finishers in their respective competitions were A Flight's Lee Dong Kyu, Joey Dela Cruz, and Alex Sablan; B Flight's Tony Guerrero, Lito Mendoza, and Carl Hocog; C Flight's Mario Taitano, Glenn Maratita, and Diego Benavente; Seniors's Alex Tudela, Manny Mangarero, and John Cepeda; and Ladies' Masayo Miyamoto, Lorraine Babauta, and Noriko Togawa.

"Thanks to all the participants, sponsors and volunteers for your support and most especially for braving Mother Nature's blessings throughout the day. This is the first of what I imagine will be an annual tournament," tournament director James Nelson said in a press release.

"Thanks to Gov. Ralph Torres and the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) for hosting a successful event. Lastly, thanks to the Tournament Committee, Vicky Benavente, Martin Duenas, the MVA staff, Ivan Blanco, and Shirley Camacho-Ogumoro for their invaluable assistance and hard work in putting this tournament together. I'm sure everyone involved will look forward to the 2nd Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament in May 2017," Nelson added.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Ralph Torres, third left, congratulates J.J. Atalig, second left, at the awards ceremony for the Inaugural Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament held last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. Pictured from left are Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) board member Larry Lee, Atalig, Torres, and MTEC chair Vicky Benavente.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Ralph Torres welcomes golfers to the Inaugural Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament held last Saturday on the east course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

The tournament was hosted by the Office of the Governor and MVA to help raise funds for tourism education through the Marianas Tourism Education Council.

"We are pleased with the great turnout for the first annual Governor's Tourism Cup," MVA managing director Chris Concepcion said. "We thank all our winners and participants for supporting the MTEC's efforts at educating our youth on the importance of tourism. The MVA team will continue to emphasize that tourism is everybody's business, so we appreciate the support of the entire community going forward."

"The Marianas Tourism Education Council will continue to engage students to highlight the tourism industry's social, cultural, and economic value," MTEC chair Vicky Benavente said. "I especially want to express our thanks to director James Nelson for his awesome leadership with organizing this fundraising event for MTEC."

The event was supported by the following: Major sponsors's Bank of Guam, Bridge Capital, DFS Saipan Ltd., IT&E; Classic sponsors' Pacific Islands Club, Joeten Superstore, Best Sunshine Inc., Hyatt Regency Saipan; Classic donors' Alter City Group, PHI Pharmacy, Saipan Shipping Co., IP&E, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, JET Holding Co., Island Training Solutions, Herman's Modern Bakery; Hole-in-one sponsors' Joeten Motors, Pacifica Insurance, Triple J Motors, AK Saipan, IT&E; and Beverage sponsors MARPAC-Budweiser, Saipan Ice & Water, PTC-Miller. ***(PR)***

## LESSON

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"As expected, playing against World Cup soccer nations like Japan, China, and Korea is a very humbling experience for all of us. Not everyone has this rare opportunity to play against and learn from the best in the world. There is no guarantee that US can beat these teams as they are on the same level. Keep playing hard and learning this week in Beijing. We will continue to train hard after the team returns and CNMI will keep improving as we move forward. We are very proud of our players for their fighting spirit and for not giving up until the referee blows the whistle," Tan said.

After the match against Japan, the Commonwealth players were scheduled to challenge host China last night. China settled for a 2-2 draw against South Korea during the tournament's opening game last Tuesday.

## OGUMORO

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Rollers Blue finish third in the team standings with its 6-3 record.

Two other Rollers Blue players joined Ogumoro in the Top 3 in scoring with Jun Alipio coming in at second with his 17.14 average (120 points in seven games) and Christian Arceo ending up at third after posting an average of 15 (105 points in seven games).

Rounding out the Top 10 in scoring were Rollers White's Jethro Cruz (13.71 points per game), 670 Sonics' Djay Ong (12.85ppg), the Ol'Aces' Greg Sablan (11.86ppg), Rollers Red's Tony Deleon Guerrero (11.85ppg), the Ol'Aces' Napu Atalig (10.28ppg), and Kagman Riserz's Mel Sakisat (9.87ppg) and Mike Muna (9ppg).

In the steals department, Ogumoro led Rollers White's Kenji Abono (5.78 average), the Ol'Aces' Aiferson Atan (5.71), and his teammates Arceo (3.57) and Alipio (3.42). Rounding out the Top 10 were Kagman's Andrew Palino (3) and Sakisat (2.85), Junior Sonics' Renato Gaviola (2.62) and Lawrence Diyco (2.37), and 670 Sonics' Kyle Rios (2.42).

In the assists category, Arceo stole the thunder from Ogumoro with the former posting an average of 4.14 after collecting 29 in seven games against the latter's 3.87 (31 assists in eight matches). Kagman's Andrew Palino (3.28), Abobo (2.57), Gaviola (2), Rollers White's Sam Darag (1.85), Sakisat (1.57), Rollers White's Melvin Deocares (1.57), Rollers Blue's Jude Tengco (1), and 670 Sonics' Mike Espinosa 91) made up the Top 10.

In the rebounds department, only two players averaged in double figures with the Ol'Aces Greg Sablan edging Kagman's Blake Dean. Sablan hauled 75 boards in seven games for an average of 10.71, while Dean was at close second with his 10.25 average (82 boards in eight matches). Arceo (9.14), Napu (8.14), Ong (8), Espinosa (7.28), and Kagman's Darion Jones (6.62), Dion Lizama (6), and Sakisat (5.62) rounded out the Top 10.

670 Sonics slotman Jester Kintaro missed the Top 10 in the rebounds department, but led the division in blocks with his average of two per game.

Meanwhile, the single-elimination round will begin today with the top-ranked 670 Sonics facing last qualifier Wong at 5pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. The Sonics finished the regular season with a 7-1 record, beating Kagman in the tiebreak, while Wong had a 1-7 mark and also prevailed in a tie against Junior Sonics.

In the second playoff game tomorrow, Kagman will take on Tanapag, which was ranked seventh with its 2-6 card. Other first round pairings are Rollers Blue (6-2) versus Rollers Red (2-6) for the May 23 match and Rollers White (5-3) against the Ol'Aces (5-3) for the May 24 tiff. Winners of tonight's match and the Rollers White-Ol'Aces tiff will square off for the first finals berth on May 25, while the victors in the two others games will battle for the remaining finals ticket on May 26. The winner-take-all finale is set for May 27.

## JAPANESE

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ki Matsuda of Japan and Yohan Sung of Korea, No. 4 Kai Kawano and Seita Watanabe of Japan, and No. 3 Ting-Hao Hsu and Cheng-Chief Wang of Chinese-Taipei eliminated their respective foes.

Sung and Matsuda needed only two sets to dispatch Japan's Taiyo Hirano and Fumiya Yoshino, 6-0, 6-4, and arrange a quarterfinals duel against Chinese-Taipei's Cing-Yang Meng and Hong Kong's Kyle Tang at the upper half of the bracket. Meng and Tang eked out a 6-3, 4-6, 10-7 victory over Japan's Tatsumi Shimamoto and Malaysia's Darrshan Suresh.

Kawano and Watabe are also at the top half of the draw and set up a quarterfinals date against the Philippines Michael Eala and Japan's Kairi Inoue following a 6-2, 6-2 triumph over the Philippines' Manuel Balce III and South Korea's Min Seok Kim. Eala and Inoue took only two sets too to down wild card entries Benjaminjacob Martin of the Philippines and the CNMI's Vincent Tudela, 6-2, 6-1.

At the bottom half of the draw, Hsu and Wang eased past Japan's Ryuhei Azuma and Taiyo Yamanaka, 6-3, 6-1, to forge a Round of 8 tiff against American Samoa's Larry Magalasin and the Federate States of Micronesia's Terry Rush, who eliminated the CNMI's Robbie Schorr and Australia's Charles Dossetter, 6-2, 6-2.

The other quarterfinal pairing at the bottom half of the draw will have the tandem of Japan's Soma Yokoyama and Hong Kong's Jonathan Zhang Kato and Miyai. Yokoyama and Zhang advanced following a 6-2, 6-2 victory over Japan's Roma Matsushita and Hong Kong's Matthew Lee.

In other results yesterday, Japanese Tatsuki Shimamoto, Taiyo Hirano, Yamanaka, Watanabe, Matsushita, and Miyai won their respective opening singles matches to march into the second round. Balce broke Japan's streak in yesterday's boys singles competition after ousting Azuma, 6-3, 6-2.

### Lee, Rengiil soldier on

In the girls doubles, all four seeded teams made it to the quarterfinal round.

The CNMI's very own Carol Lee and Palau's Ayana Rengiil, who are seeded third in the field, booked a quarterfinals berth after knocking out the Japan's Nanari Katsumi and the Commonwealth's Negahr Rastguiy, 6-1, 6-1. Lee and Rengiil will go for a semis slot when they take on Japan's Yuna Fukumuro and Haruka Hoshino at the upper half of the bracket. The Japanese pair won over compatriot Saki Oyma and Chinese-Taipei's Ling Hsuan We, 6-3, 3-6, 10-8.

Another Japanese duo—Akari Miyazaki and Nanami Okamoto—barged into the quarterfinals following a 6-4, 6-3 victory over the CNMI's Tania Tan and Mua Shigeta. Okamoto and Miyazaki will next challenge the top-ranked pair of Rika Tanaka and Claudia Ng, who swept the CNMI's Isabel Heras and Japan's Sophie Hamada, 6-2, 6-2, in another match at the upper half of the draw.

At the bottom half, No. 2 seed Yuelin Chen and Ting-Chieh Wei of Chinese-Taipei blanked the CNMI's Mimi Sakano and Ami Tsukagoshi, 6-0, 6-0, to advance against Japan's Mana Kawamura and Tomoko Yoshida, who prevailed against the U.S' Sara Tsukamoto and Casey Cummings, 6-3, 7-5.

The other pairing at the lower half of the draw will have Hong Kong's Avril Look and Hong Yi Wong dueling compatriot Alicie Yue and Chinese-Taipei's Ya Chi Hsu. The fourth-ranked Hong Kong duo topped Japan's Manami and Yuna Ukita, 6-4, 6-2, while Hsu and Yue downed the CNMI's Malika Miyawaki and Japan's Yuki Sakurai, 6-3, 6-2.

# Kanoa FC vs Tinian Premier FC Friendly

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS**

Kanoa Football Club and Tinian Premier Football Club players and officials pose for a photo after their friendly game on Tinian last May 7 and 8.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan, right, gestures to Tinian FC's Arley Long.

Tinian players and supporters watch the action at the pitch.

Kanoa and Tinian U14 players line up at center court before the start of their friendly match.

A Tinian FC players goes for a throw-in.

Tinian FC U14 players gather for a photo before their game against the visiting Kanoa FC.

Two Tinian players stay close on defense against a Kanoa member.

Kanoa's Jaydee Jose, 44, attacks Tinian's defense.

**Cavaliers stay perfect, blow out Raptors in Game 1**

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**Mets top Nationals, end four-game skid**

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# Japanese pair stuns seeded foes

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Japan's Tsubasa Kato makes a forehand slice while teammate Yusuke Miyai looks on during their doubles game against the Philippines' Jerome Romualdez and Hong Kong's Alester Magalit in the 2016 IT&E Northern Marianas Juniors Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Upset marked the start of the boys doubles contest in the 2016 IT&E Northern Marianas Juniors Championships as a Japanese pair pulled the rug from under their seeded opponents.

Unranked Yusuke Miyai and Tsubasa Kato swept the second-seeded duo of Hong Kong's Alester Magalit and the Philippines' Jerome Romualdez, 6-4, 6-0, yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club to advance to the quarterfinal round of the lower half of the bracket.

Romualdez and Magalit were the only ranked players who failed to survive the opening round of the doubles events as No. 1 seed Ryu-

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# Lesson learned for CNMI in game vs Japan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The learning process for the CNMI Girls U14 National Team began last Tuesday when it suffered a 23-0 beating at the hands of powerhouse Japan in the AFC U14 Girls Regional Championships at the Xianghe Football Training Center in Beijing, China.

Japan, who is the favored team in Pool A of the tournament, dominated the match right at the get-go, building a 13-0 halftime edge.

"The girls were nervous and afraid. They felt every part of their body was shaking. It took a while for our players to take control of themselves and start playing the game. This was the first game and our staff already expected our girls to feel this way. However, even with this result, the girls played their best and their hearts out. There were a few injuries, but they made it through the game," said team manager Angie Ito in an email sent to *Saipan Tribune*.

"The girls were and still are amazed with the way Japan played. This is what coach Koo (head of delegation Luam Khen Koo) called 'soccer outside CNMI'. The girls realized how fast, strong, agile, and skilled their opponents are. They now have an understanding and idea of what competition means—how different soccer is outside of our islands," Ito added.

The Commonwealth bets began the lopsided match with Irish Viray as their goalie. Completing the CNMI's starters were Princess Alcantara, Patricia Surima, Julie Hall, Khristelle Itaas, Katrina Costales, Esther Jones, Leisha Sally, Lillian Podziewski, Sharmaine Francisco, and Paulynn Joyce. Goalkeeper Theresa Toves, Therize Millare, Alisa Gatharngeg, Francesca Bucalig, Valeria Myers, and Hannah Santos were the substitutes.

Japan, on the other hand, had Emika Kawagishi, Kotone Takara, Chisa Kimura, Warai Yoshizumi, Haruna Tabata, Akari Noguchi, Nonoka Fuchigami, Kanna Matsuhisa, Ayane Abe, Kanasa Takeshita, and Mei Shimada as starters. Shimada led the rout after scoring four goals, while Takara and reliever Reina Shirowa each had a hat-trick.

Meanwhile, NMIFA president Jerry Tan encouraged the CNMI's young crew to look at the brighter side after the loss to Japan.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's starting 11 pose for a photo before their game against Japan in the AFC U14 Girls Regional Championships last Tuesday at the Xianghe Football Training Center in Beijing, China.

# Ogumoro stands out in U18; playoff round starts tonight

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rollers Blue's Aaron Ogumoro starred in the regular season of the boys U18 division of the Inaugural Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League after topping two departments and placing second in another category.

Ogumoro led the division in scoring and steals, averaging 19.12 points and 6.25 steals in eight games. He totaled 153 markers and 50 steals in the round-robin regular season and helped

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An Ol'Aces player unloads a shot against a 670 Sonics defender during their regular season game in the U18 division of the Diaz youth caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Both teams made it to the playoff round that will start tonight.